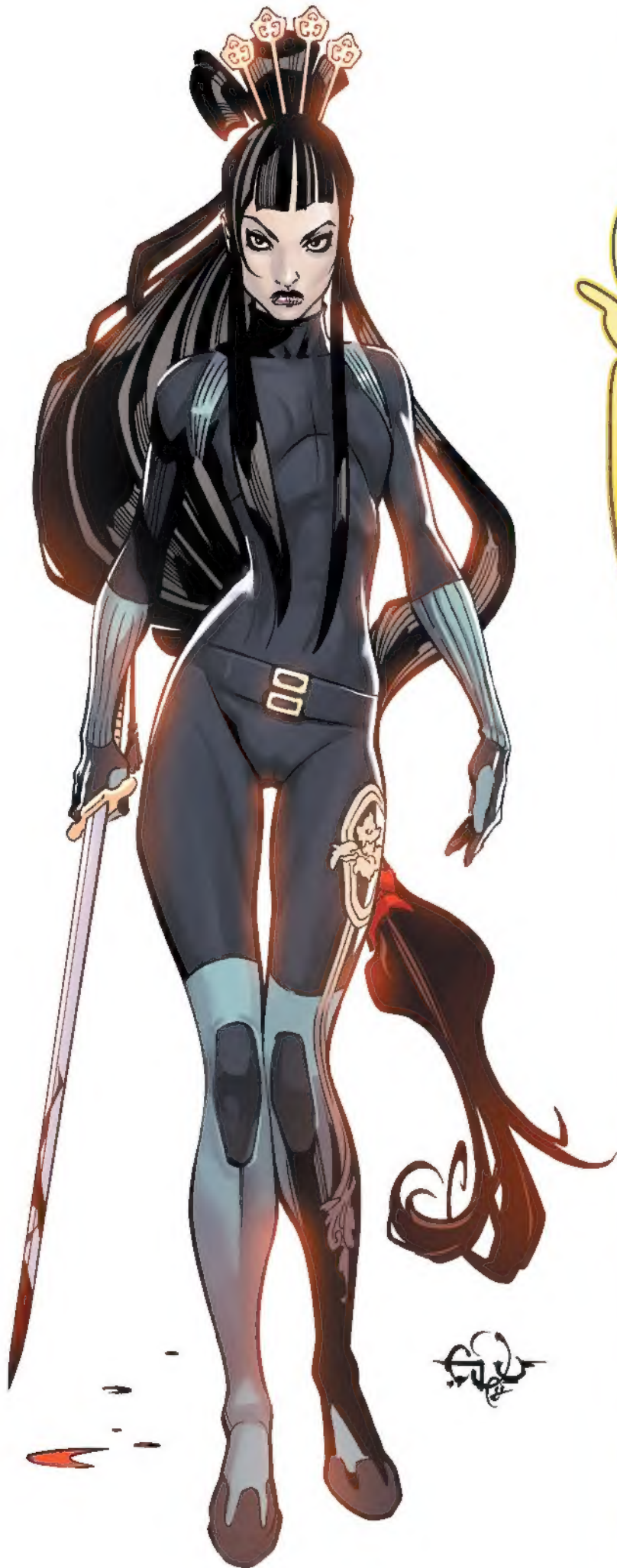




EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT FRIS

the HIT LIST AGENDA

ISSUE #0
VOLUME TWO

DAVID WOHL
EDUARDO FRANCISCO
SUNNY GHO



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"WELCOME TO THE MACHINE"

WRITER

DAVID WOHL

PENCILS

RYAN ODAGAWA

COLORS

SUNNY GHO

LETTERING

JOSH REED



PART ZERO



A: DIRECT EDITION
EDUARDO FRANCISCO
SUNNY GHO



B: DIRECT EDITION
MICAH GUNNELL
PETER STEIGERWALD

created by David Wohl, Brad Foxhoven & Michael Turner

Digital Editor: FRANK MASTROMAURO, VINCE HERNANDEZ Design and Production: JOSH REED, MARK ROSLAN, PETER STEIGERWALD Lettering font designed by: DREAMER DESIGN

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EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT: IRIS™ Vol. 2 Issue 0

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Executive Assistant: This
script by David Wohl, Brad Fickelen & Michael Turner
David Wohl & Brad Fickelen say
**WELCOME
TO THE MACHINE**

script **David Wohl**

illustrations **Eduardo
Francisco**

colors **Sunny Gho**

letters **Josh Reed**



FIVE
MINUTES,
MA'AM.

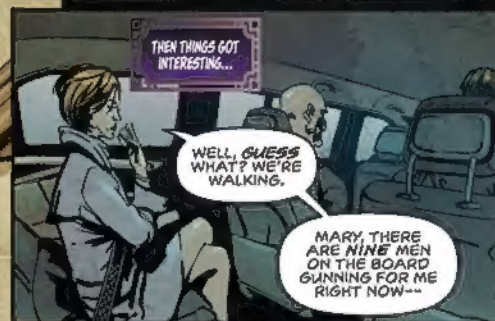
PERFECT.

MARY, WHAT'S
THE STATUS OF
THE SELLERS
ACQUISITION?



THIS IS DIANE
COVERDALE. IT WOULD BE
AN UNDERSTATEMENT TO
SAY THAT THIS HAS BEEN
A TRYING YEAR FOR HER.

TELL THAT
GREEDY SON OF
A BITCH THAT HE
JUST TOSSED
THIS DEAL RIGHT
IN THE TOILET.



THEN THINGS GOT
INTERESTING...

WELL, GUESS
WHAT? WE'RE
WALKING.

MARY THERE
ARE NINE MEN
ON THE BOARD
GUNNING FOR ME
RIGHT NOW--



I'M NOT GONNA
GIVE THE SONS OF
BITCHES THE
AMMUNITION.



WHAT?
BULLSHIT! SEVEN
POINT SEVEN
BILLION IS THE HIGHEST I
WILL GO.



FROM DADDY'S GIRL TO HOMECOMING
QUEEN TO TROPHY WIFE, THE FIRST
THREE DECADES OF HER LIFE WERE
UTTERLY PERFECT.

I DON'T
CARE HOW
MANY OTHER
COMPANIES
ARE IN THE
MIX.

I TOLD HIM IF
HE TURNED THIS
INTO A BIDDING
WAR, WE'D
WALK.



--EVERY
ONE OF THEM
HOPING FOR
ME TO F**
UP.



TELL
SELLERS TO GO
F** HIMSELF.
THIS DEAL IS
DEAD.



IN SCARCELY OVER TWO YEARS, HER FAIRYTALE LIFE BECAME THE STUFF OF TABLOIDS.

MRS. COVERDALE, OVER HERE!

WE LOVE YOU!

WHY'D YOU KILL HIM, DIANE?

JUST ONE QUESTION!



BEGINNING WITH TAWDRY RUMORS OF AFFAIRS WITH HOLLYWOOD HUNKS AND CULMINATING WITH THE SUSPICIOUS MURDER OF HER HUSBAND, THE EASY LIFE WAS BEHIND HER.



BUT IN THE ENSUING YEAR SINCE BECOMING A WIDOW, DIANE STRUGGLED TO FORGE A NEW LIFE FOR HERSELF.

MRS. COVERDALE HAS NO COMMENT!!!

JUST ONE-- OOOOOLLLLLFF!!!



IN A MOVE THAT SURPRISED THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY, SHE ASSUMED HER LATE HUSBAND JOHN'S ROLE AS PRESIDENT OF THE FAMILY-OWNED COMPANY...



...MUCH TO THE DISMAY OF THE BOARD, WHICH WAS EXPECTING HER TO TAKE HER NINE-FIGURE INHERITANCE AND DISAPPEAR.



DIANE HAD OTHER IDEAS.



THE MURDER OF HER HUSBAND SHOWED DIANE HOW FLEETING --AND FRAGILE-- LIFE WAS, SO SHE VOWED TO CARRY ON HIS LEGACY.



SHE UNDERSTOOD THAT THIS DECISION WASN'T WITHOUT RISK.











DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

COMING TO THE CONCLUSION THAT HER HELP WAS SUB-STANDARD, DIANE CONSULTED SEVERAL SECURITY "EXPERTS" AND INQUIRED WHERE SHE COULD FIND THE BEST OF THE BEST.

SHE LEARNED OF A SERIES OF SCHOOLS DEVOTED TO THE TRAINING OF AN ELITE GROUP OF INDIVIDUALS KNOWN AS "EXECUTIVE ASSISTANTS."

MOSTLY WOMEN, THE GRADUATES OF THE SCHOOL'S GRUELING PROGRAM EMERGED AS HIGHLY-TRAINED INDIVIDUALS WITH DIVERSE TALENTS.

CHIEF AMONG THEM, FIGHTING.

NOW ENTERING THE OCTAGON ARE TWO RECENT GRADUATES OF THE KAZAKH PROGRAM: LILAC AND ACTEIA!

BIDDING FOR AZALEA WILL BEGIN AT SEVEN HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND U.S. DOLLARS.



ACTEIA HAILS
FROM THE REPUBLIC OF
GEORGIA AND SPECIALIZES IN
PROTECTION, INFILTRATION
AND SMALL ARMS.

LILAC
GRADUATED AT
THE TOP OF HER
CLASS IN ETIQUETTE,
DEMOLITION AND
PERSONAL
SECURITY.

WILL THE
CONTESTANTS
PLEASE READY
THEMSELVES.

HEY---
GOOD
LUCK.

YAAHHH!



MRS. COVERDALE DIDN'T
KNOW EXACTLY WHAT SHE
WAS LOOKING FOR...

...BUT SHE KNEW
WHAT SHE WANTED:

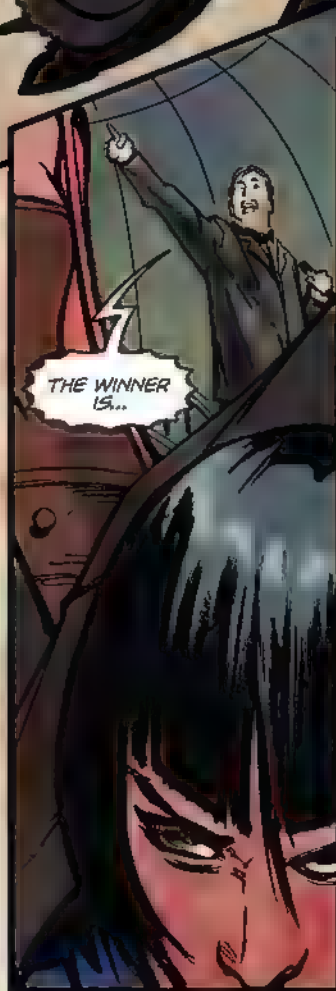
SOMEONE WHO COULD KEEP UP WITH
HER INCREDIBLY BUSY SCHEDULE,
AND LOOK STYLISH DOING IT.

BUT MOST OF ALL,
SOMEONE WHO
WOULD KEEP HER
EMPLOYER SAFE.



SHE KNEW SHE WAS ASKING FOR A LOT.

...ACTEIA!



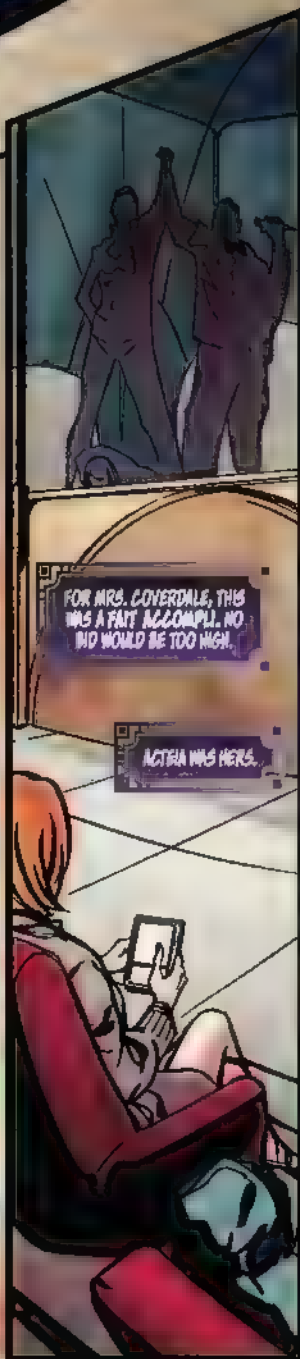
THE WINNER IS...



AND WAS PLEASANTLY SURPRISED TO FIND THE SOLUTION RIGHT IN FRONT OF HER.

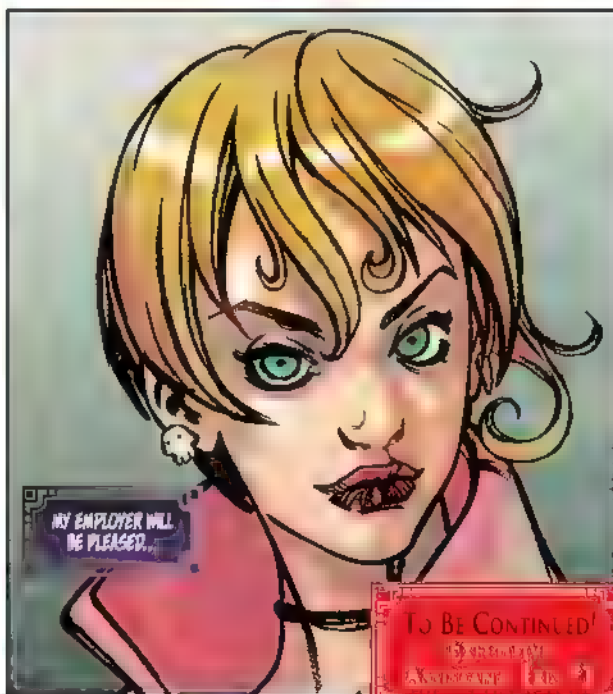
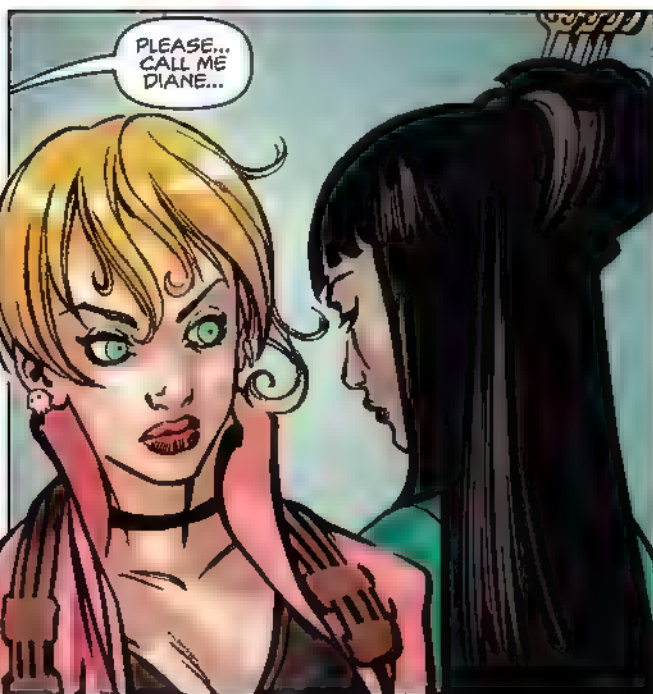
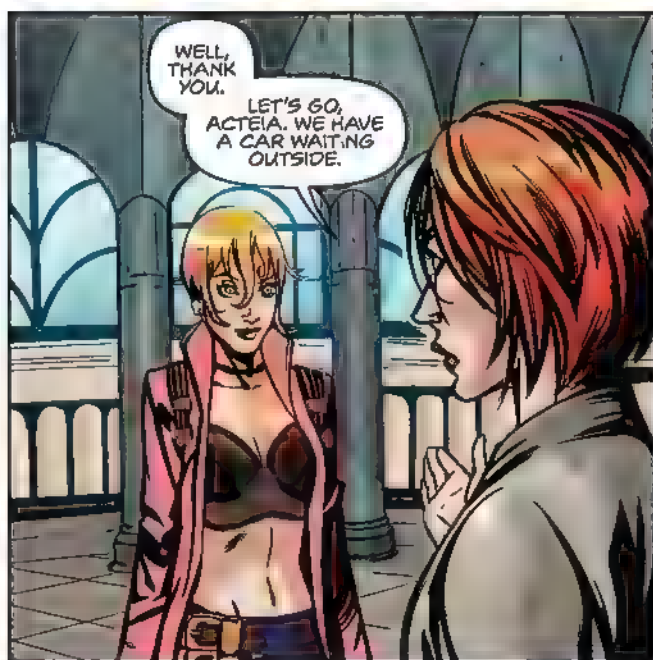


BIDDING WILL BEGIN AT NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND U.S. DOLLARS.



FOR MRS. COVERDALE, THIS WAS A FAIR ACCOMPL. NO BID WOULD BE TOO HIGH.

ACTEIA WAS HER.



the

HIT LIST AGENDA

**EXECUTIVE
ASSISTANT: IRIS
IS BACK!**

**AND THIS TIME SHE
BROUGHT A FEW
FRIENDS!**

Words by:
David WOHL

Illustrations by:
**Eduardo
FRANCISCO**



THE LOOK

One of the most fun parts of coming up with new concepts and characters is working with the artist on the design. I have no artistic talent whatsoever. Stick figures are a challenge. But in times like this, I get to "spread my artistic wings." This is especially true when I work with Eduardo on new designs, as he is always looking to incorporate new fashions and styles into the looks of the characters.

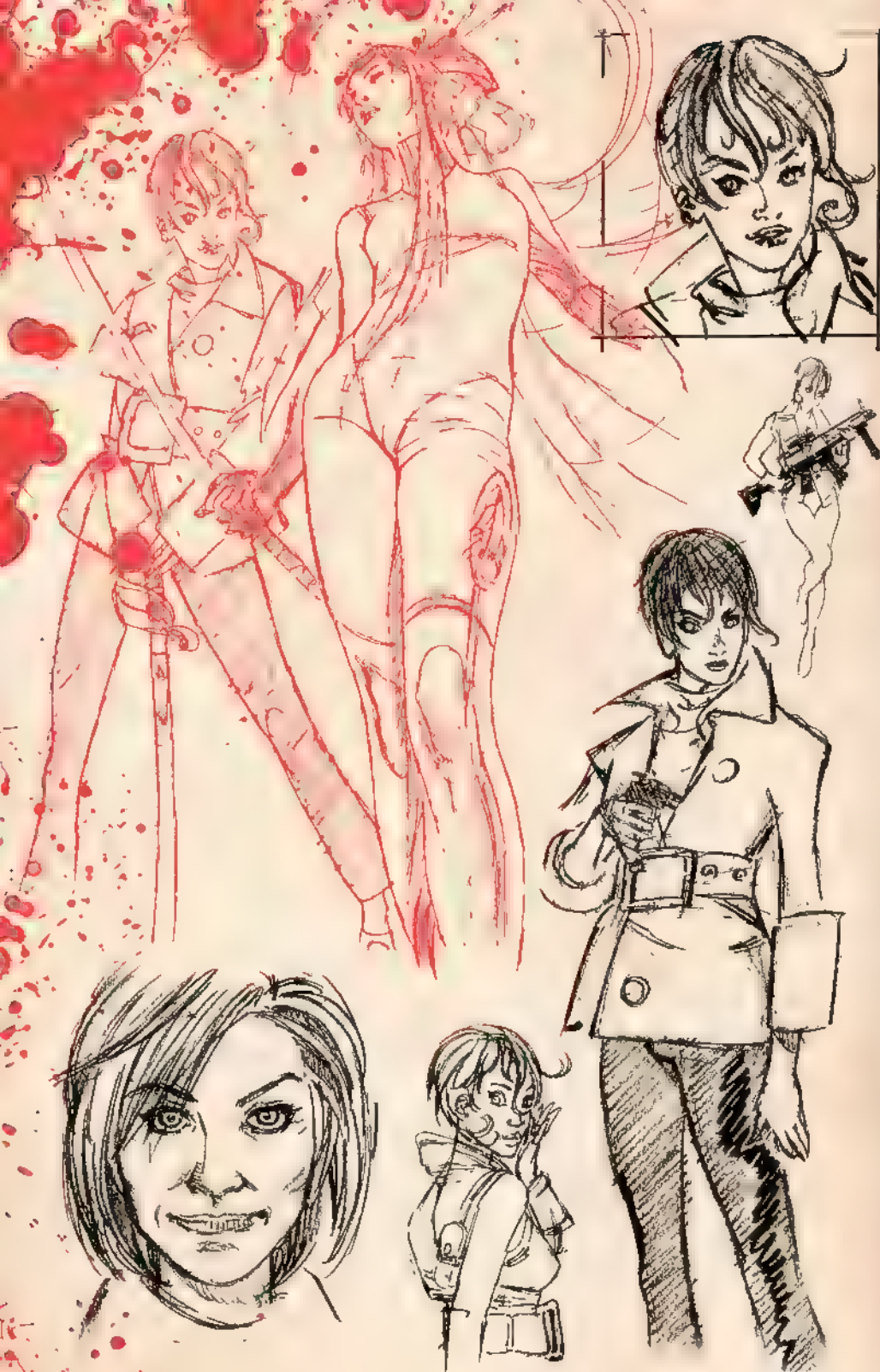
I've always liked his different designs of Iris. Very corporate when she was at work, and very utilitarian when she was on a mission. When it came to Acteia, we wanted to make sure that we went with someone with a different look and personality from Iris. And as you can see, Eduardo delivered immediately. Whereas Iris is stoic in both her manner and her dress, Acteia is more flamboyant and expressive.



THE FOCUS

One thing we've always tried to put across is that, as much as possible, the Executive Assistant should reflect the personality of their employer. Even when they're doing the choosing, the prospective "owners" will gravitate toward certain Executive Assistants. We quickly establish the kind of woman Diane Coverdale is. She's no-nonsense and willing to fight for what she believes in, so that tends to get her into trouble. She's also extremely stylish. For her obviously, protection is the number one concern, but she also wanted someone who would fit in her glamorous Hollywood life-style. Iris would probably stand out like a sore thumb when TMZ is snapping photos. But Acteia not only would fit right in, she'd smile for the camera...before breaking it.





THE FOCUS

I believe that the Hit List Agenda is the natural evolution of the Executive Assistant series. The first time around, we introduced readers to the world of Iris and showed where she came from. But we only scratched the surface of the mythology and the universe. As people will quickly see, Acteia and Iris may both ultimately have the same goals—to protect and serve their employers—but they go about that service in very different ways. One thing they have in common is that they can kick serious ass when called upon to do so. The difference is, Iris would prefer to solve problems by other means while Acteia has no problem using her fists, or a sword, or an assault rifle to solve her problems. Over the course of the series though, Iris and Acteia will find that they have more in common than they ever realized.

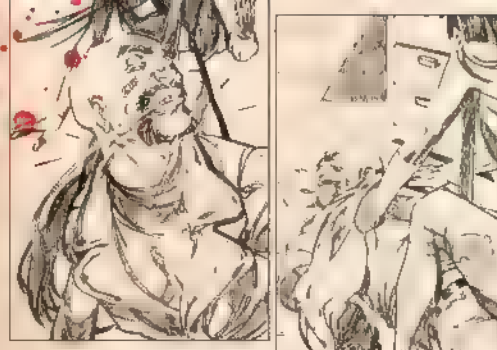
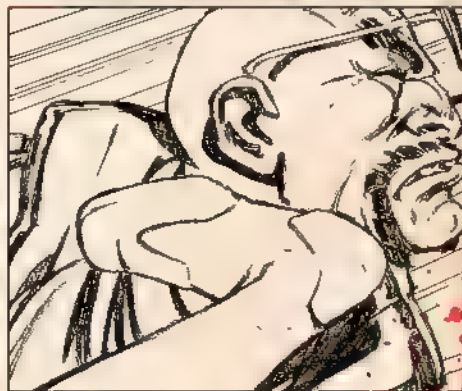
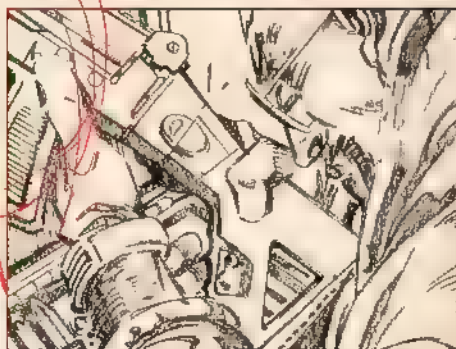
To bring this big world to life, we've been fortunate to be able to work with some very talented creators, each of them bringing their own unique vision to the crossover. First, of course, there's my buddy Eduardo, who worked with me on the original Iris series and has returned to stay on the new series. Then we have one of my oldest friends in comics, Scott Lobdell. Oh wait, maybe that didn't come out right. Sorry, Scott. Anyway, Scott is working with Micah Gunnell on Executive Assistant: Orchid. This is a part of the story that I wish I was able to tell myself. Orchid is employed by a Mexican gangster, and the events in her story have a feel right out of a Quentin Tarantino film. Meanwhile, Aspen's own Editor in Chief and master scribe Vince Hernandez and the awesome Oliver Nome embark on a completely different kind of Executive Assistant tale of political intrigue and global stakes in Executive Assistant: Lotus. And then we have the renowned Marc Andreyko teaming up with another old friend, Pop Mhan, in Executive Assistant: Violet, which is a James Bond-ish tale of espionage in the U.K.



THE RESULT

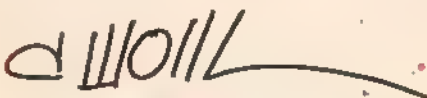
I must say that it's been a pleasure working with these great creators. Everyone brings their own expertise and story sense to the crossover, and this allows each of the different titles to have it's own special, unique style and flavor. But beneath that, we're all heading in the same direction, working on one big, explosive story that will bring all of these extraordinary characters together.

Doing an ambitious crossover like this isn't easy, but it's very rewarding when you see the final product.



THE REWARD

And it's even more rewarding when the books are finally on the stands, and you get to read and experience what we've been toiling over for months. And then, hopefully at some convention down the line, or on the message boards or on Facebook or Twitter or any of the other hundreds of ways one has to communicate these days, you'll let us know what you think of our baby, The Hit List Agenda!!!!


David Wohl



EXECUTIVE
ASSISTANT
A
HIS

Issue #1
ON SALE NOW!



EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT IRIS

the HIT LIST AGENDA

ISSUE #1 of 5
VOLUME TWO

DAVID V. REIS

CHARACTER DESIGN BY
JIMMY K. GUNZAK



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EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT IT'S

the HIT LIST AGENDA

ISSUE #1 of 5
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DAVID WOHL
EDUARDO FRANCISCO
TODORO GONZALEZ



HIT LIST AGENDA • COVER B

“NO SURRENDER”

DAVID WOHL

EDUARDO FRANCISCO

ALEX LEE

TEODORO GONZALEZ

JOSH REED

IRIS

PART 1 5



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SUNNY CHO



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JOE BENITEZ
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created by David Wohl, Brad Foxhoven & Michael Turner

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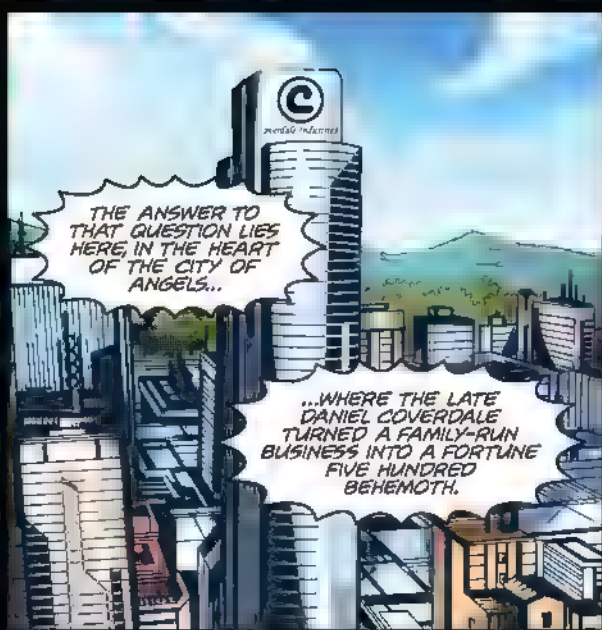
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BECAUSE AMERICA WANTS TO KNOW... WHO IS DIANE COVERDALE???

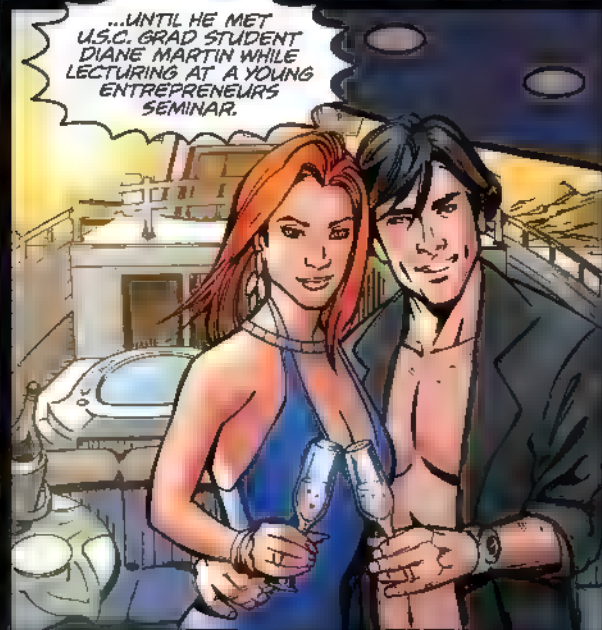


THE ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION LIES HERE, IN THE HEART OF THE CITY OF ANGELS...

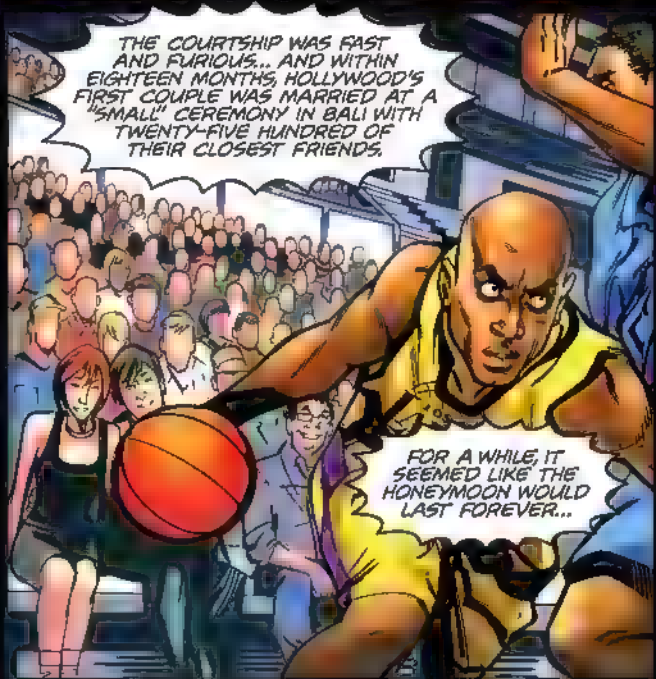
...WHERE THE LATE DANIEL COVERDALE TURNED A FAMILY-RUN BUSINESS INTO A FORTUNE FIVE HUNDRED BEHEMOTH.



WITH HIS G.Q. LOOKS AND A BALANCE SHEET THAT WOULD MAKE DONALD TRUMP BLUSH, COVERDALE WAS AT THE TOP OF US MAGAZINE'S MOST ELIGIBLE BACHELOR LIST FOR MOST OF THE NINETIES...

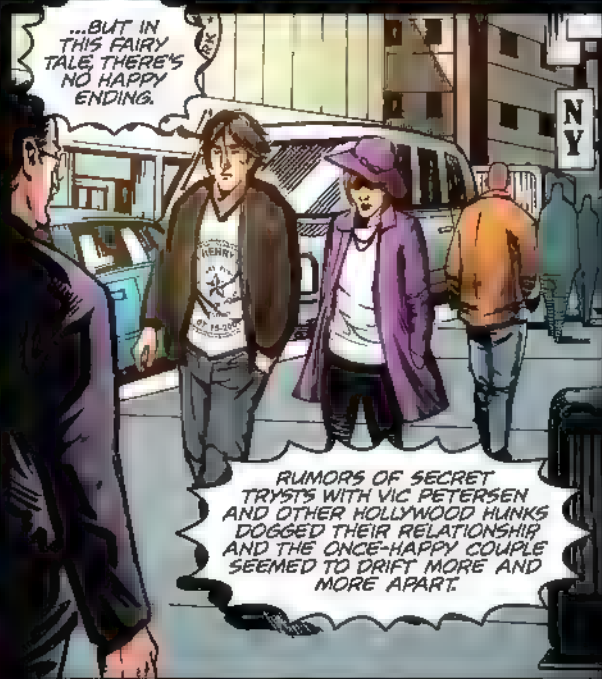


...UNTIL HE MET U.S.C. GRAD STUDENT DIANE MARTIN WHILE LECTURING AT A YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS SEMINAR.



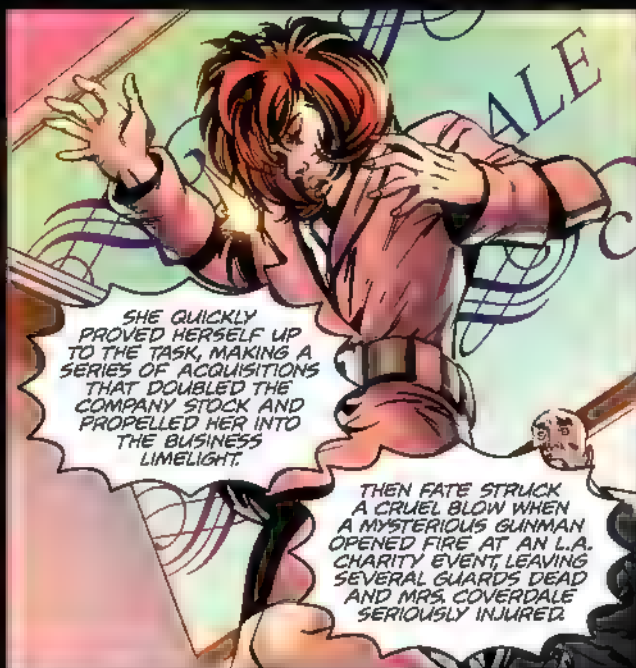
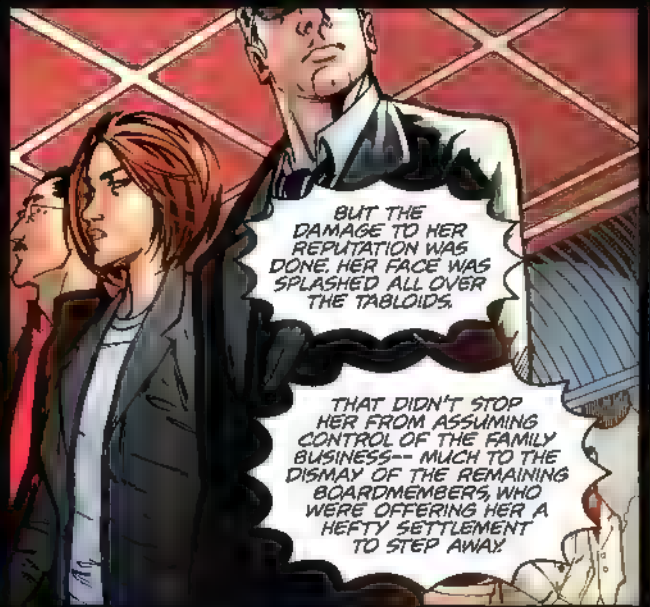
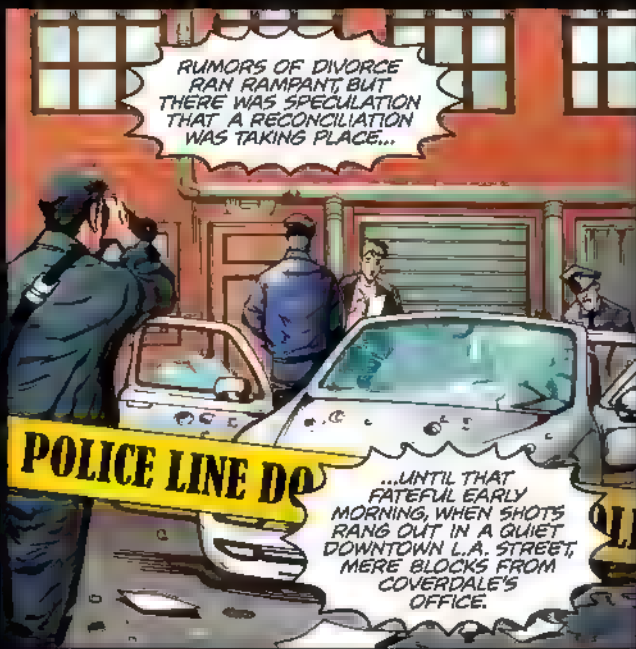
THE COURTSHIP WAS FAST AND FURIOUS... AND WITHIN EIGHTEEN MONTHS, HOLLYWOOD'S FIRST COUPLE WAS MARRIED AT A "SMALL" CEREMONY IN BALI WITH TWENTY-FIVE HUNDRED OF THEIR CLOSEST FRIENDS.

FOR A WHILE, IT SEEMED LIKE THE HONEYMOON WOULD LAST FOREVER...



...BUT IN THIS FAIRY TALE, THERE'S NO HAPPY ENDING.

RUMORS OF SECRET TRYSTS WITH VIC PETERSEN AND OTHER HOLLYWOOD HUNKS DOGGED THEIR RELATIONSHIP AND THE ONCE-HAPPY COUPLE SEEMED TO DRIFT MORE AND MORE APART.



LOS ANGELES,
CALIFORNIA
7:25 P.M.

AND JUST WHAT
DOES DIANE KNOW
ABOUT IT? AMERICA
WANTS TO KNOW!!!

NOTHING,
DAMMIT!

WE POSED
THAT QUESTION TO
SAMUEL HOLLOWAY
VICE CHAIRMAN OF
COVERDALE
INDUSTRIES...

LOOK, I'M NOT
GONNA SPECULATE ON
THE SORDID DETAILS OF MRS.
COVERDALE'S RELATIONSHIPS.
I LEAVE THAT TO
YOU GUYS.

I WILL SAY THAT,
ALTHOUGH SHE'S HAD
SOME LUCKY BREAKS
SINCE SHE ACQUIRED THE
COMPANY, IT'S TIME TO
TURN THE REINS OVER
TO THE EXPERTS--

JESUS, TELL US
HOW YOU REALLY
FEEL, SAM...

@@@HOLE.

IF YOU
DON'T MIND
ME ASKING, WHY
DO YOU SUBJECT
YOURSELF TO
THAT?

MORBID
CURIOSITY?

I GUESS I JUST
LIKE TO KNOW WHAT
PEOPLE ARE SAYING
ABOUT ME-- BUT
POINT TAKEN, ACTEIA.
BESIDES...

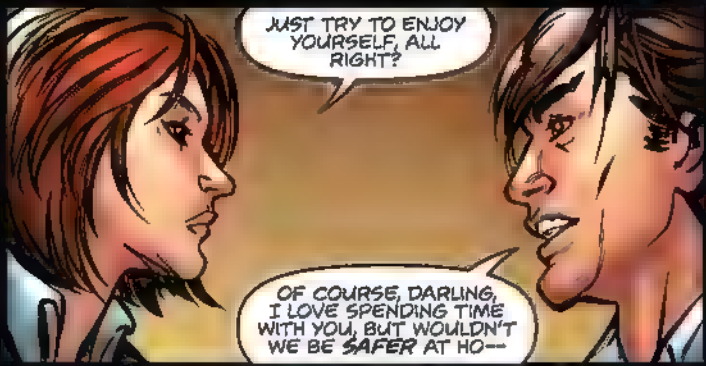
CLICK



"...I'VE GOT BETTER THINGS TO DO TONIGHT THAN WATCH TV!"

HOLLYWOOD
CALIFORNIA.
8:40 P.M.

WHY ARE
WE HERE
AGAIN?



JUST TRY TO ENJOY
YOURSELF, ALL
RIGHT?

OF COURSE, DARLING,
I LOVE SPENDING TIME
WITH YOU, BUT WOULDN'T
WE BE SAFER AT HO--



IT'S BEEN SIX
MONTHS, VICTOR.
I'M SICK OF LIVING
IN FEAR... IN
HIDING.

IF SOME SICK
BASTARD WANTS ME,
THEY CAN COME
AND GET ME.

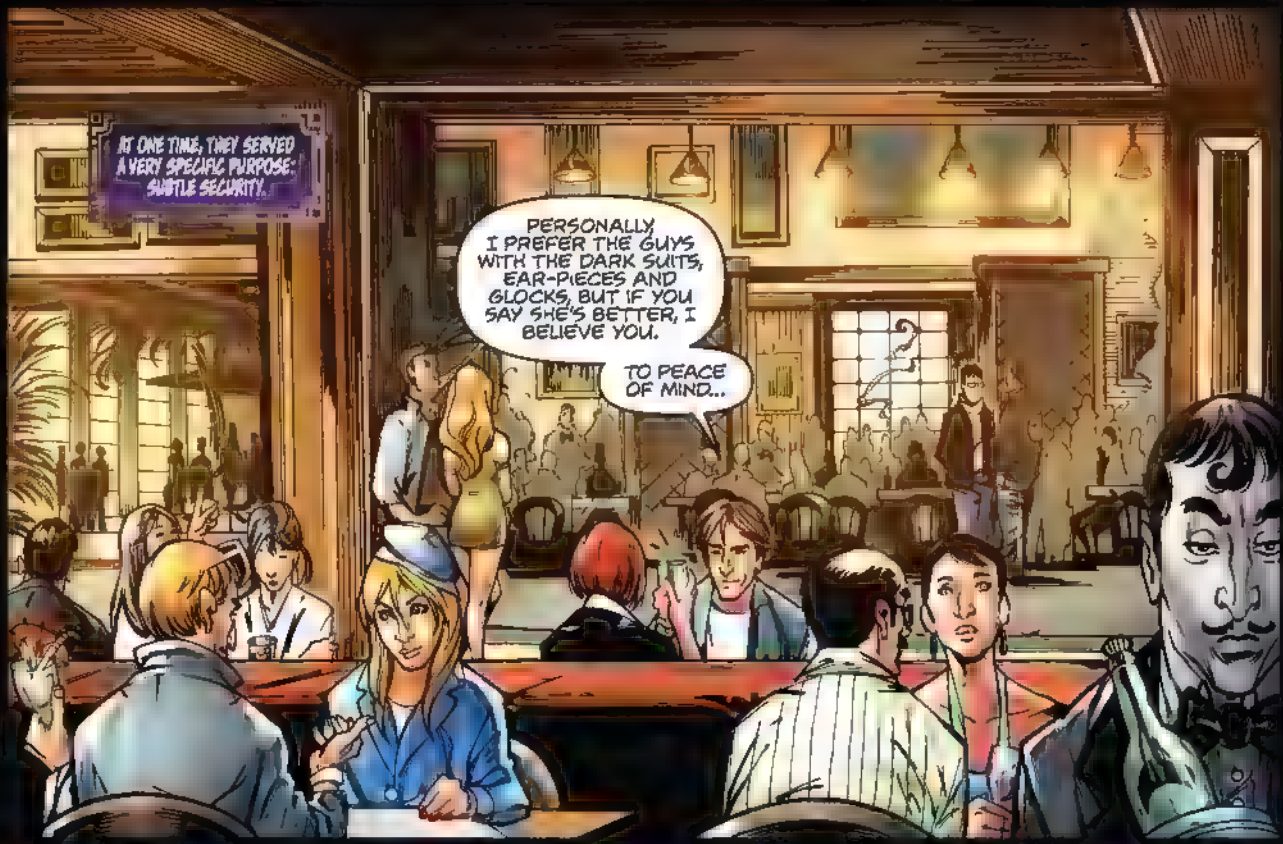


YOU DON'T
MEAN THAT.

DAMNED
RIGHT I
DO.

BESIDES,
I HAVE REAL
PROTECTION
NOW.

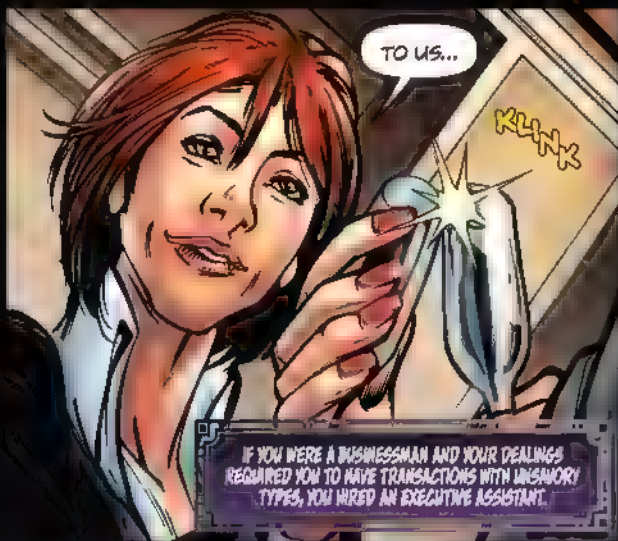
THERE ARE MANY
REASONS TO HIRE
AN EXECUTIVE
ASSISTANT.



AT ONE TIME, THEY SERVED
A VERY SPECIFIC PURPOSE:
SUBTLE SECURITY.

PERSONALLY,
I PREFER THE GUYS
WITH THE DARK SUITS,
EAR-PIECES AND
GLOCKS, BUT IF YOU
SAY SHE'S BETTER, I
BELIEVE YOU.

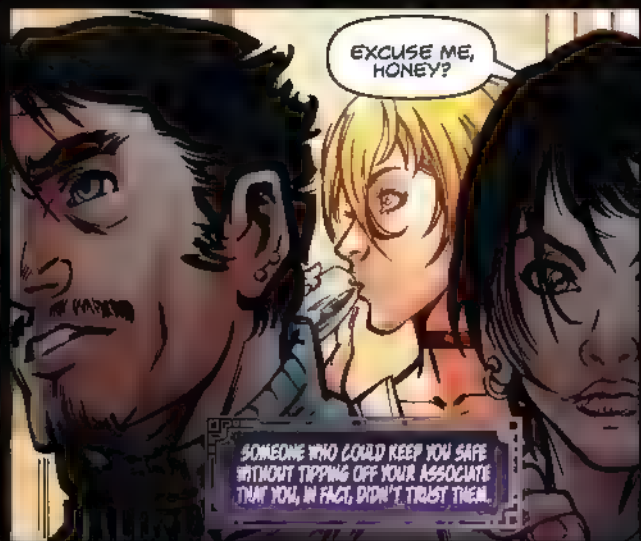
TO PEACE
OF MIND...



TO US...

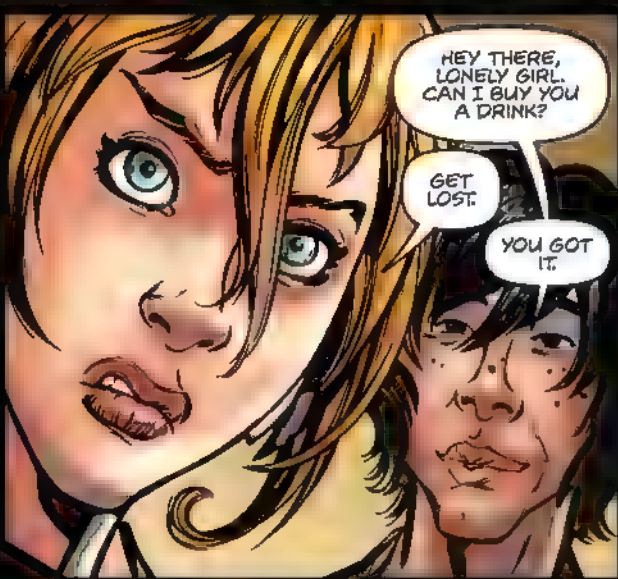
KLXX

IF YOU WERE A BUSINESSMAN AND YOUR DEALINGS
REQUIRED YOU TO HAVE TRANSACTIONS WITH UNSAVORY
TYPES, YOU HIRED AN EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT.



EXCUSE ME,
HONEY?

SOMEONE WHO COULD KEEP YOU SAFE
WITHOUT TIPPING OFF YOUR ASSOCIATE
THAT YOU, IN FACT, DIDN'T TRUST THEM.



HEY THERE,
LONELY GIRL.
CAN I BUY YOU
A DRINK?

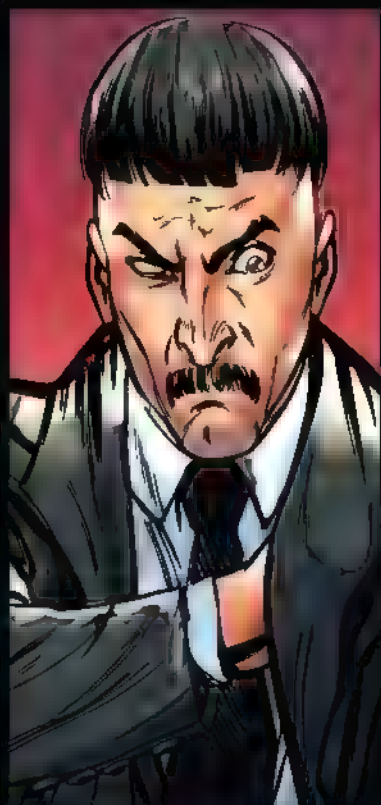
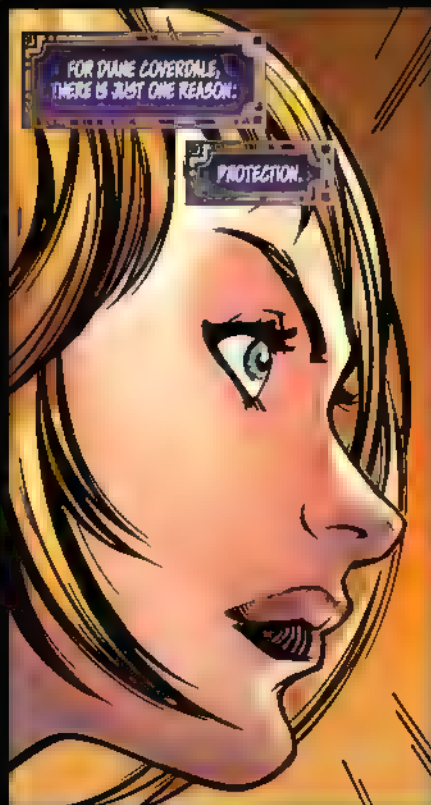
GET
LOST.

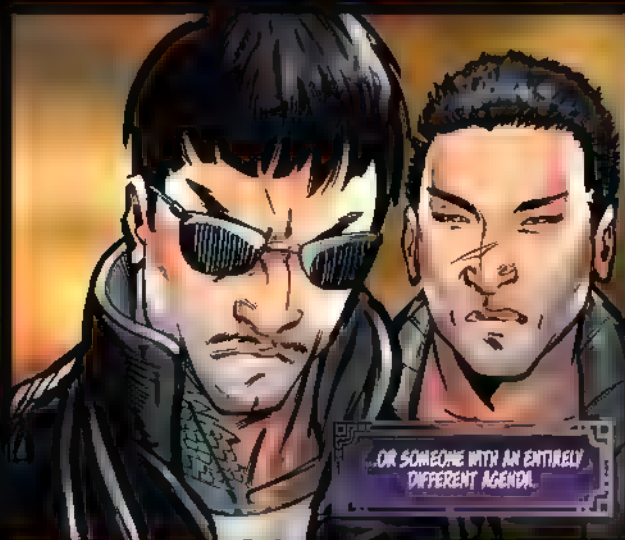
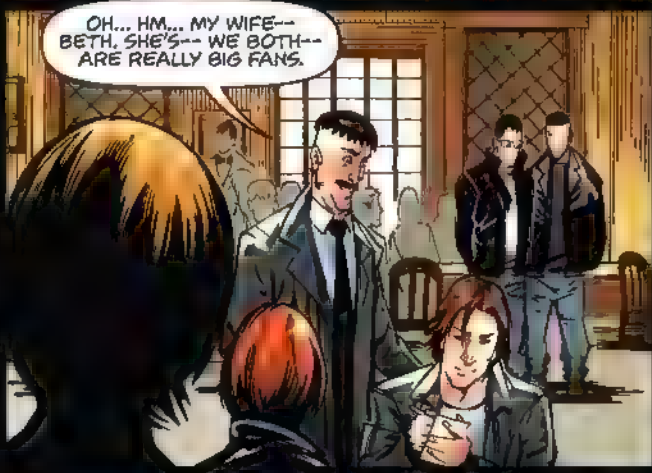
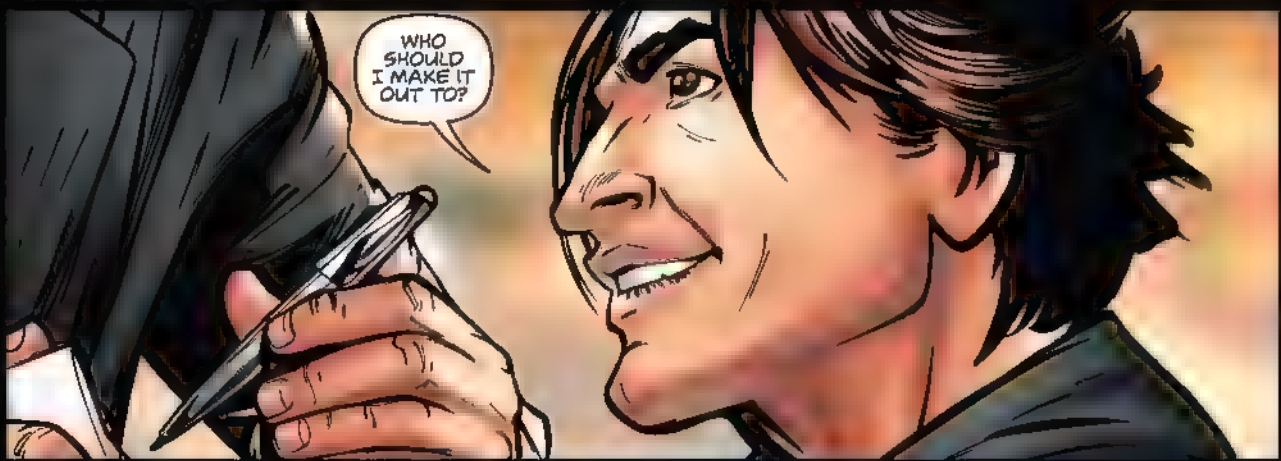
YOU GOT
IT.



OVER TIME, AND DEPENDING
UPON THE EMPLOYER, THE
ROLE HAS EXPANDED.

ASSASSIN, CONCUBINE, CONFIDANT,
THERAPIST, ARE JUST A FEW OF THE
ROLES THAT EMPLOYERS ASSIGN TO THEIR
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANTS THESE DAYS.







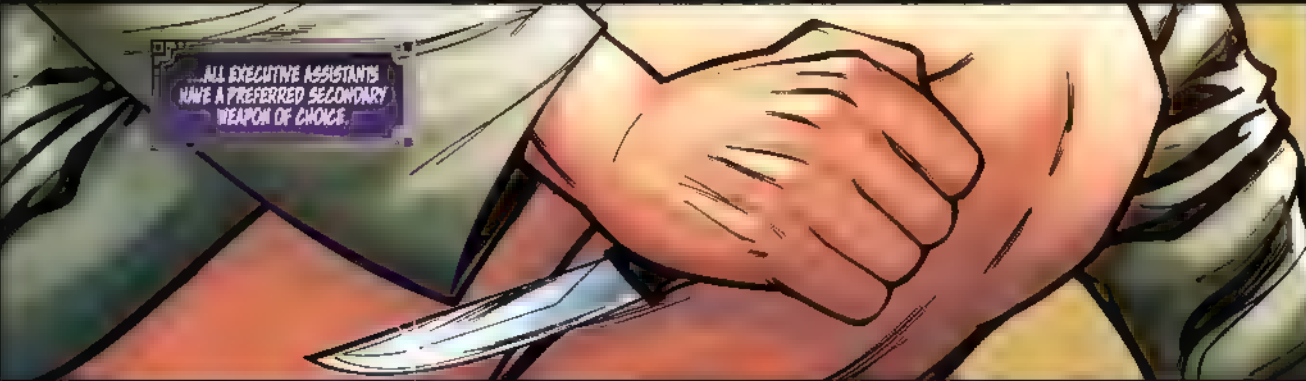
IN THE MAJORITY OF ACADEMIES,
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANTS ARE
TRAINED TO KEEP COLLATERAL
DAMAGE TO A MINIMUM.



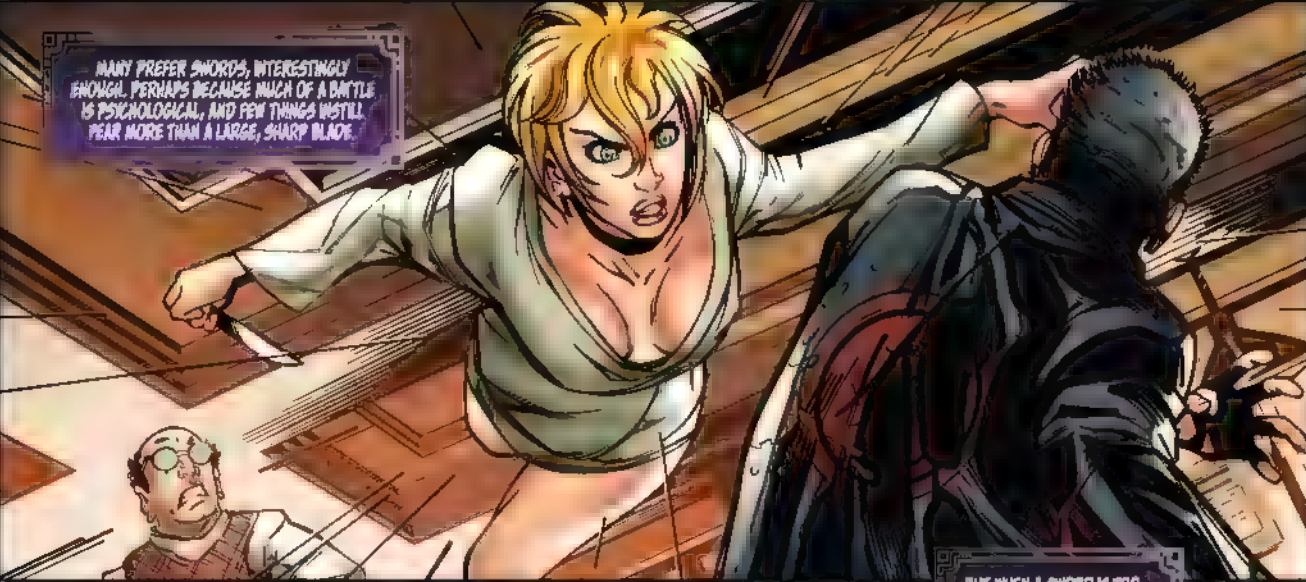
THAT'S COMMON SENSE, REALLY,
BECAUSE FAILURE TO DO SO CAN
HAVE UNFORESEEN CONSEQUENCES,
SUCH AS LOSING YOUR EMPLOYER.



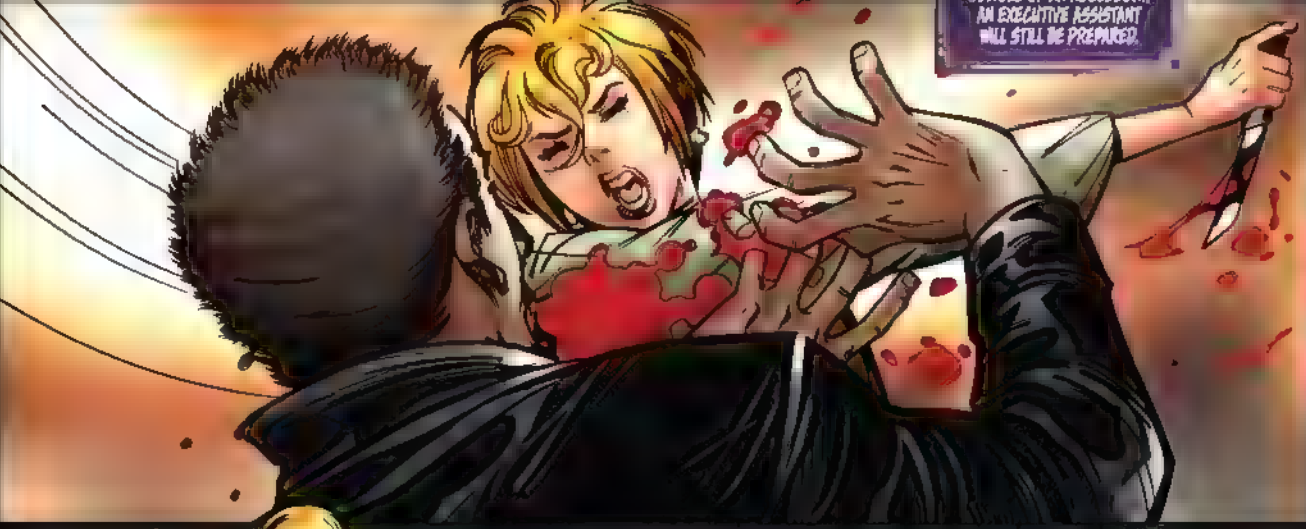
AND WHILE THEIR MARTIAL ARTS
TRAINING IS USUALLY SUFFICIENT
TO ACCOMPLISH THE TASK...



ALL EXECUTIVE ASSISTANTS
HAVE A PREFERRED SECONDARY
WEAPON OF CHOICE.



MANY PREFER SWORDS, INTERESTINGLY
ENOUGH, PERHAPS BECAUSE MUCH OF A BATTLE
IS PSYCHOLOGICAL, AND FEW THINGS INSTILL
FEAR MORE THAN A LARGE, SHARP BLADE.



BUT WHEN A SWORD IS TOO...
OBVIOUS OF AN ACCESSORY,
AN EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
WILL STILL BE PREPARED.



AFTER ALL, IN THE PROPER
HANDS, A KNIFE CAN BE JUST
AS SCARY—AND DEADLY—
AS A SWORD.



WHEN RISK OF COLLATERAL DAMAGE IS HIGH, THE USE OF FIREARMS IS FROWNED UPON.



...BY EITHER PARTY.



WHO SENT YOU?

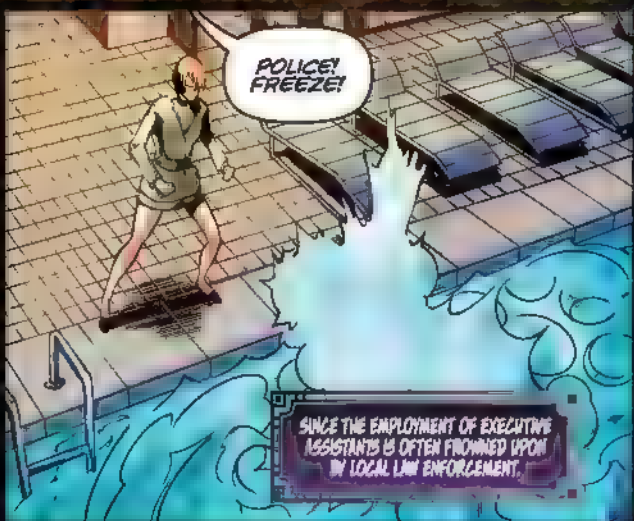
IT'S BEST TO MINIMIZE THE CHANCE OF DISCHARGE, ACCIDENTAL OR OTHERWISE.



ANSWER ME!

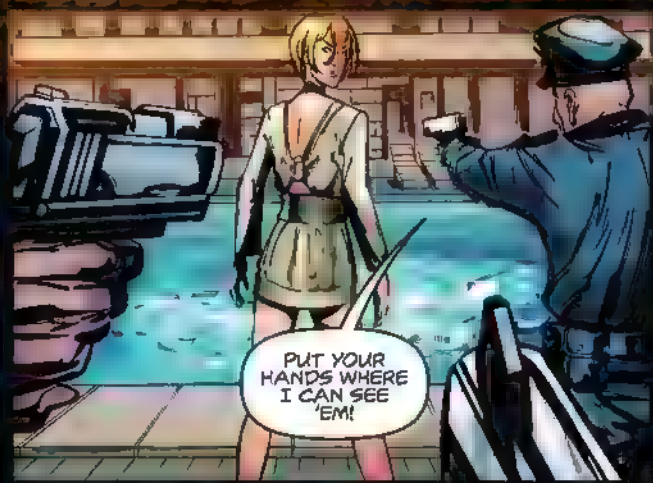
KRAK

THESE TECHNIQUES TEND TO BE USEFUL WHEN ONE'S EMPLOYER NEEDS TO BE PROTECTED IN A PUBLIC PLACE.



POLICE! FREEZE!

SINCE THE EMPLOYMENT OF EXECUTIVE ASSISTANTS IS OFTEN FROWNED UPON BY LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT.



PUT YOUR HANDS WHERE I CAN SEE 'EM!

9:10 A.M.



Coverdale Industries

NO OFFENSE, MRS. COVERDALE, BUT THIS IS EXACTLY THE KIND OF TABLOID MATERIAL THAT THE COMPANY CAN DO WITHOUT!

THEY WERE TRYING TO KILL ME.

HAVE YOU SEEN THE WIRE? OUR STOCK IS DOWN FOUR AND A HALF POINTS IN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS. DOUBTLESS DUE TO YOUR SHENANIGANS.

ARE YOU FINISHED?

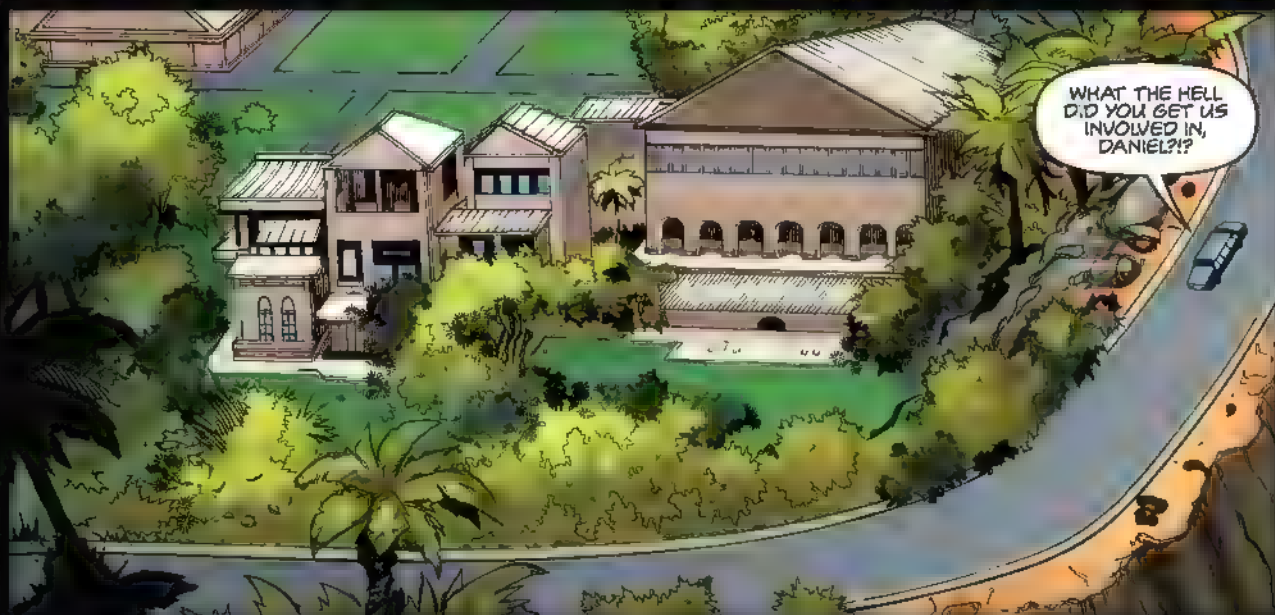
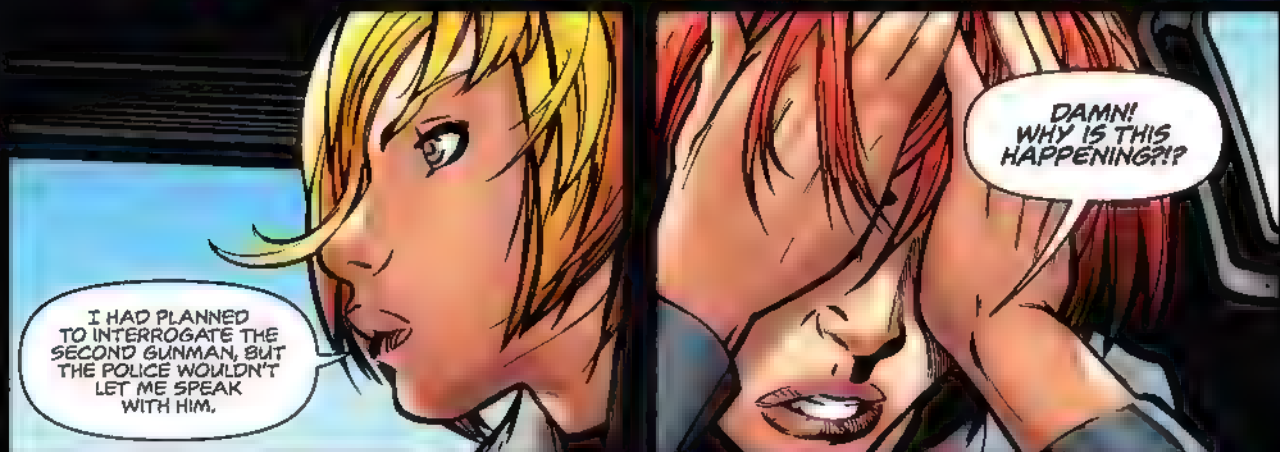
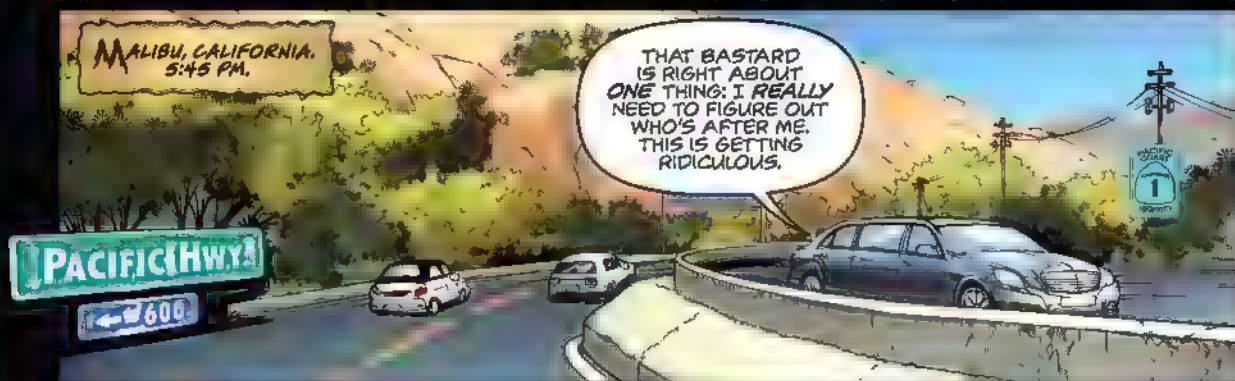
ACTUALLY NO, MRS. COVERDALE, THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AGAIN HAVE ASKED ME TO IMPLORE YOU TO CONSIDER OUR BUYOUT OFFER-- FOR THE GOOD OF ALL OF US.

LOOK, SAM. I APOLOGIZE FOR LAST NIGHT. IT WAS... UNFORTUNATE, BUT THERE IS NO WAY IN HELL THAT I'D STEP DOWN OVER THIS.

AND I WILL CONTINUE TO LIVE LIFE MY WAY WITHOUT INTERFERENCE FROM YOU OR ANYONE ELSE, JUST LIKE DANNY DID.

THEN I SUGGEST YOU TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT ALL OF YOUR HUSBAND'S PRIOR BUSINESS ACTIVITIES TO DISCOVER JUST WHO WANTS YOU DEAD...

...OR PERHAPS YOU ENJOY BEING A TARGET?



6:15 P.M.

I NEED TO RELAX.

MRS. COVERDALE HOPED THAT AN EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT WOULD MAKE HER SECURITY PROBLEMS GO AWAY.

AND IN THE SIX MONTHS SINCE SHE ACQUIRED ACTEA, THINGS DID SEEM TO BE GETTING MORE CALM.

AS IS THE TRADITION, SHE BROUGHT ACTEA INTO HER HOME—EVEN SET UP A GYM FOR HER.

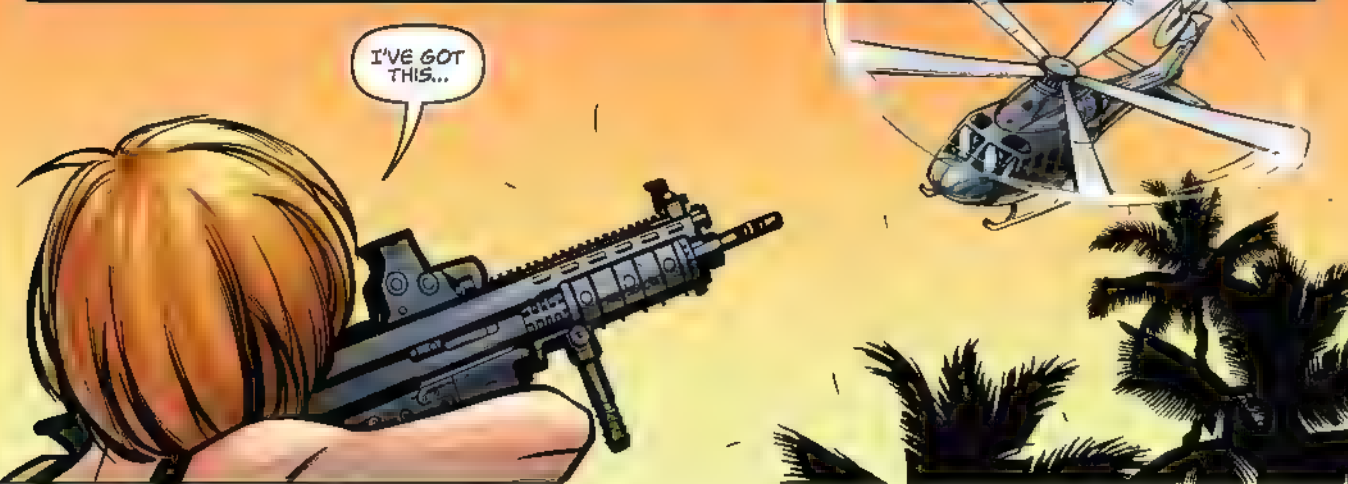
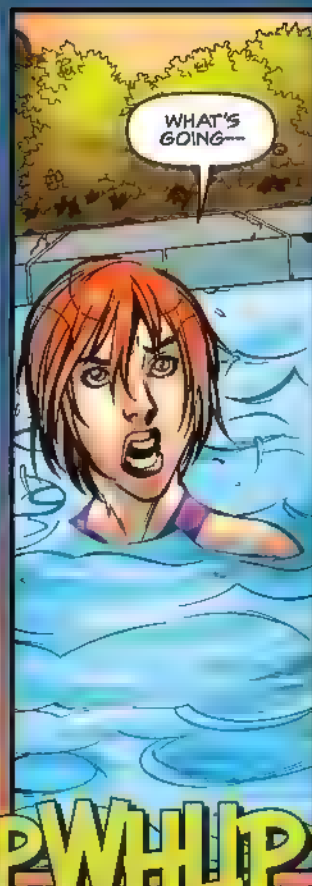
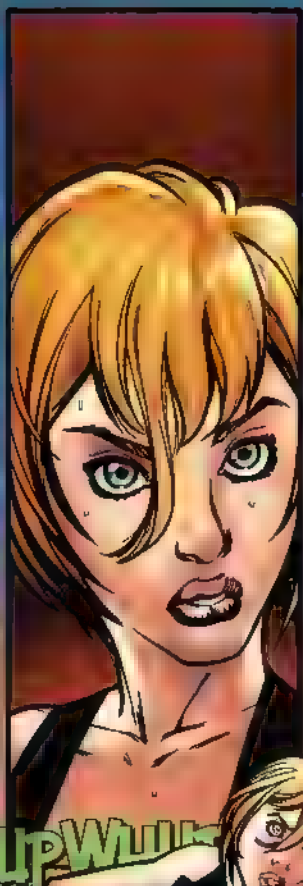
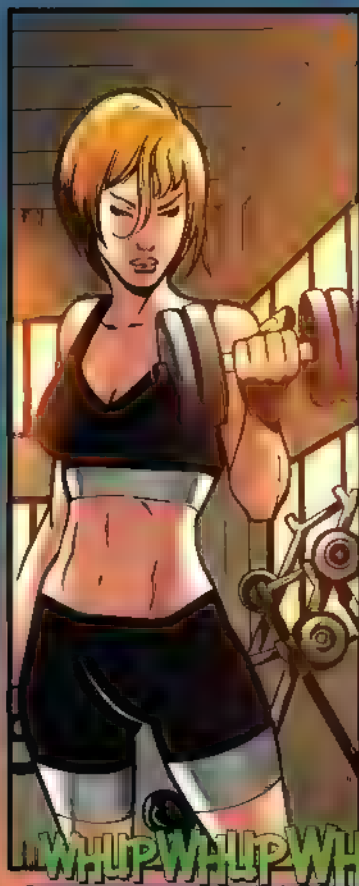
HAVING HER CLOSE GAVE DAINE PEACE OF MIND.

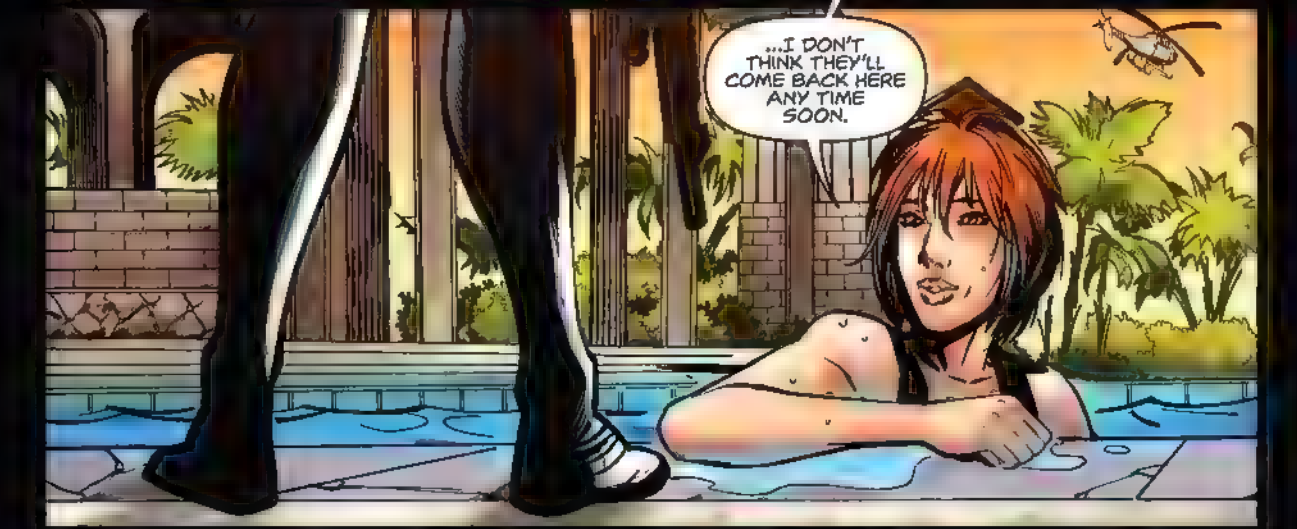
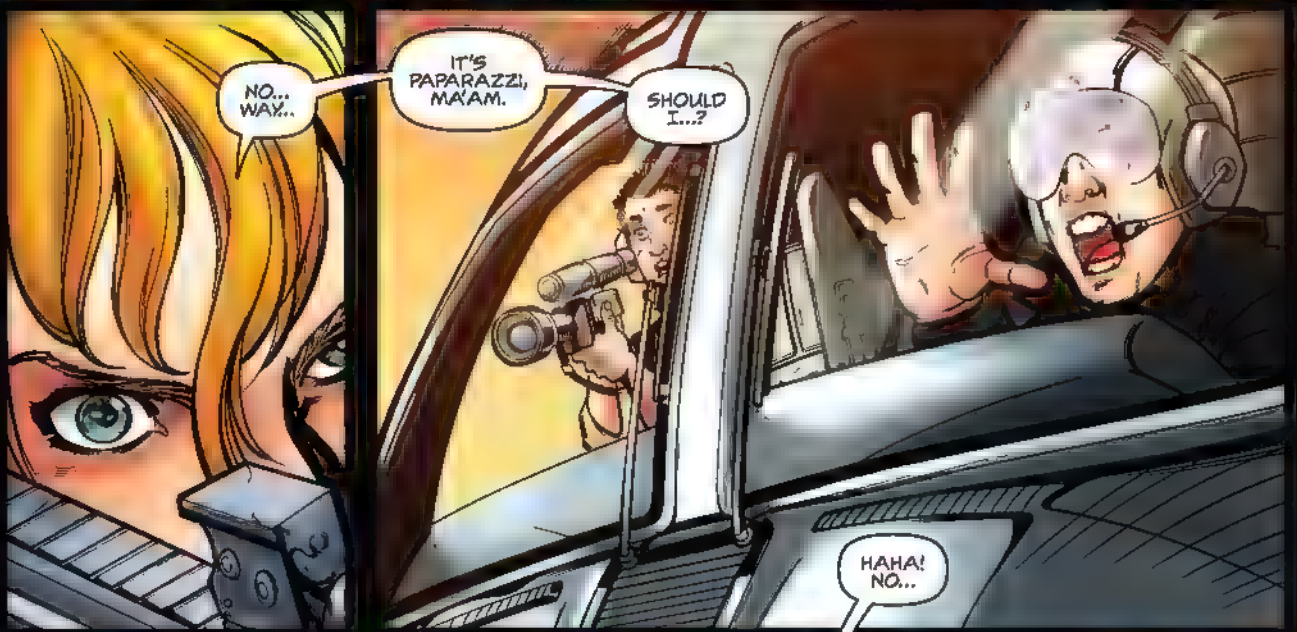
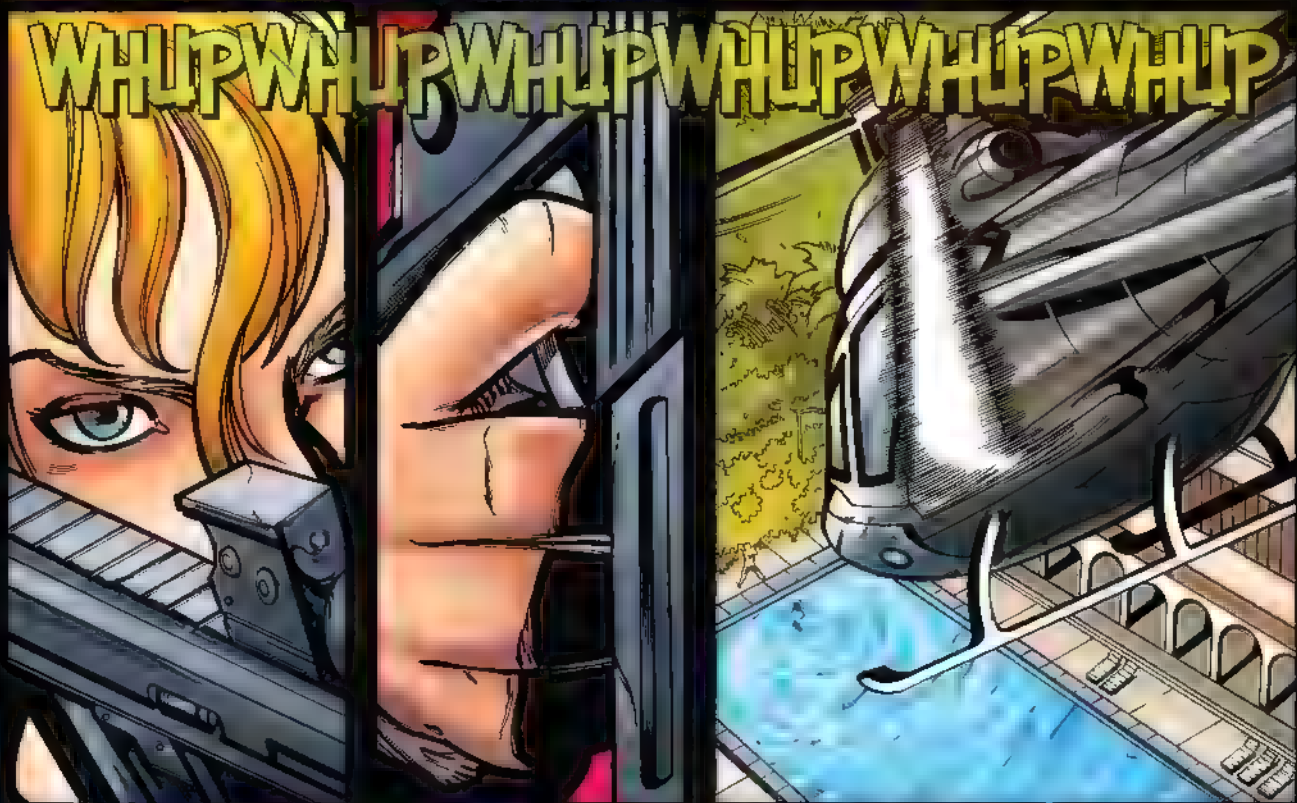
YET SHE KNEW THAT TROUBLE WAS STILL LOOMING.

SHE DESPERATELY WANTED TO BELIEVE THAT THE MURDER OF HER HUSBAND WAS MERELY A TRAGIC ACT OF RANDOM VIOLENCE.

IT WASN'T.

WHIPWHIPWHIP



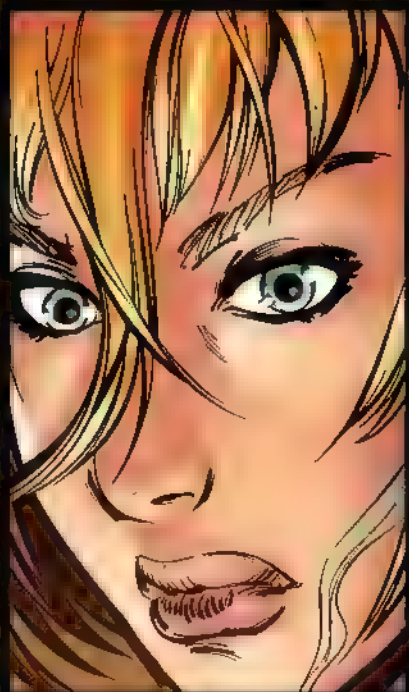


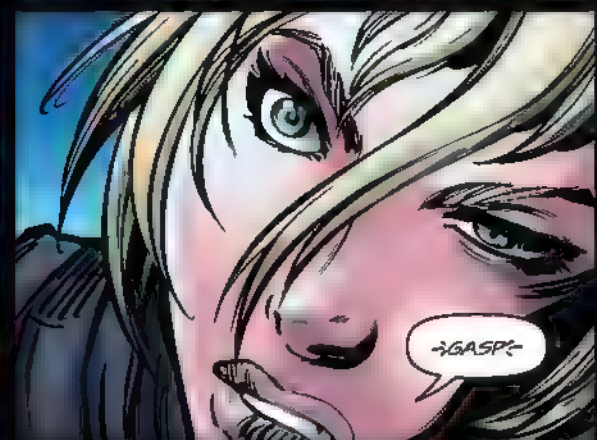
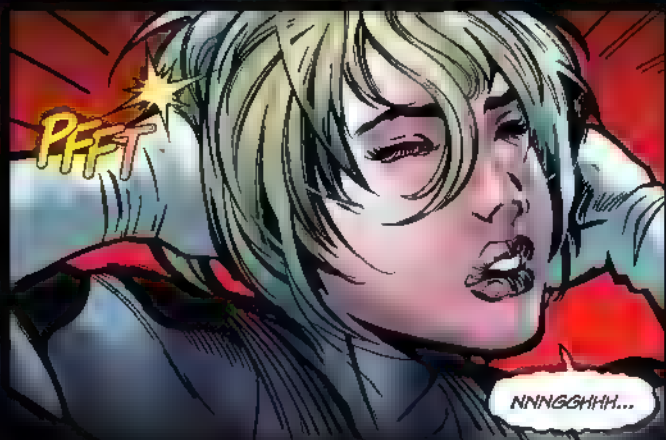
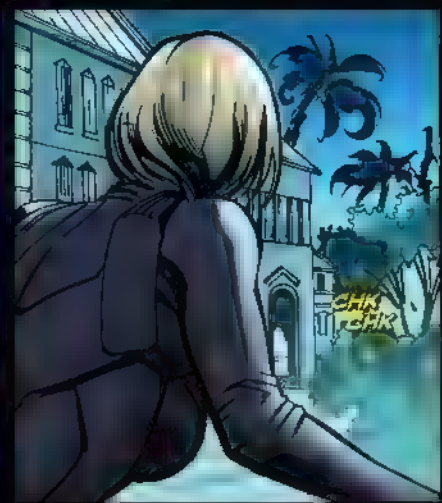
1:15 A.M.

THE COLD, HARD TRUTH IS,
SECURITY IS A TENUOUS THING.

IF A PERSON WANTS SOMETHING
OR SOMEONE--BADLY ENOUGH,
THEY WILL EVENTUALLY GET IT.

NO MATTER WHO
IS PROTECTING IT.







ESPECIALLY WHEN THEY
DON'T REALIZE THAT THEY
ARE THE TARGET.

NICE TO SEE
YOU AGAIN,
ACTEIA...

TO BE CONTINUED!
BY MO'NIE
KIMBLE
WITH ILLUSTRATIONS BY



EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT AIR'S

the HIT LIST AGENDA

ISSUE #2 of 5
VOLUME TWO

DAVID WOHL

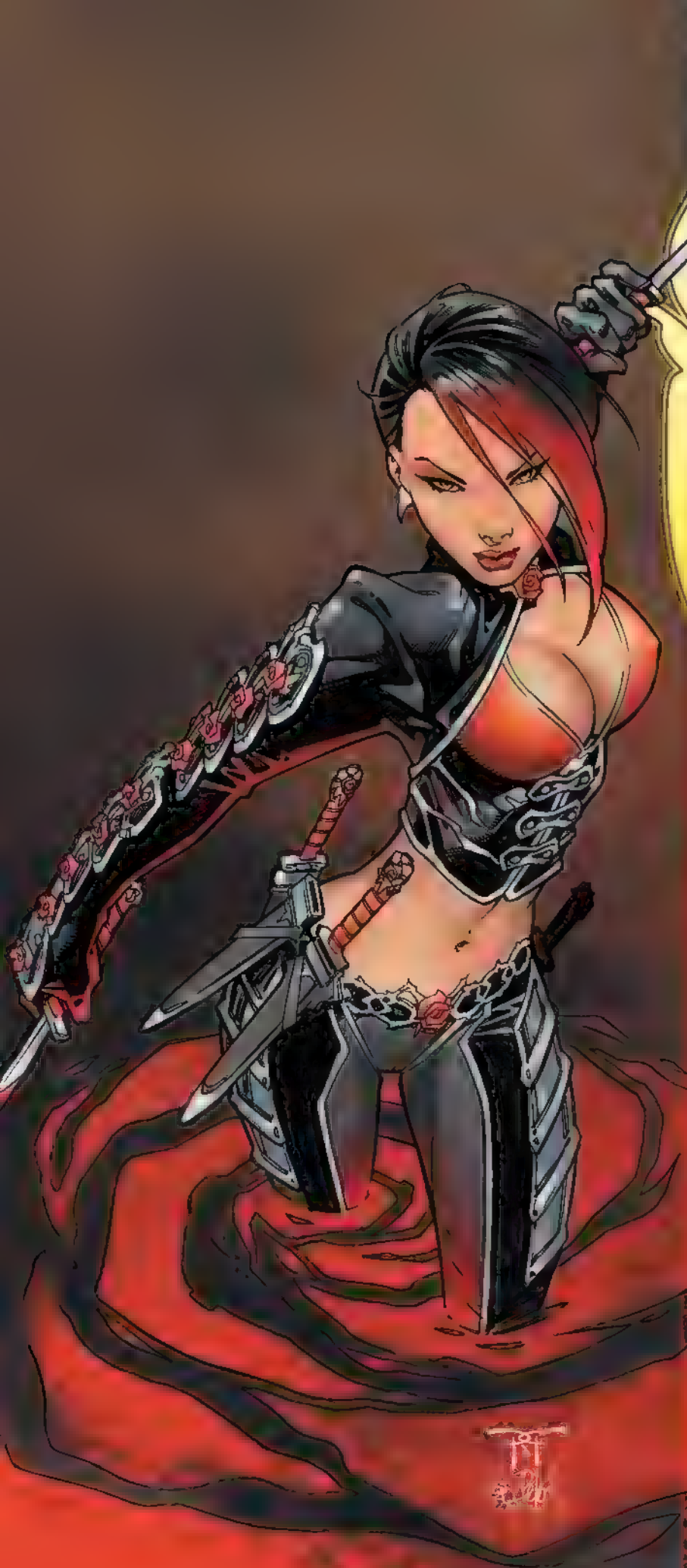
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ISSUE #2 of 5
VOLUME TWO

DAVID WOHL
RYAN ODAGAWA
TODORO GONZALEZ



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"WELCOME TO PARADISE"

WRITER

DAVID WOHL

RYAN ODAGAWA

TEODORO GONZALEZ

JOSH REED



PART 2 of 5

For her last story
her life, Cover

suddenly



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PETER STEIGERWALD



B: DIRECT EDITION
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PETER STEIGERWALD

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NR02-CPAGE 1003

Beep Beep Beep Beep Beep Beep Beep Beep

11:20 A.M.

Beep Beep

I'M TOLD THE
PROCEDURE IS
RELATIVELY
PAINLESS.

A SIMPLE INSERTION THREE
MILLIMETERS ABOVE THE
C-1 VERTEBRA.

THE FIRST TWENTY-FOUR HOURS ARE
KEY TO ENSURE THERE IS NO REJECTION
BY THE CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM OR
ANY AUTOIMMUNE DIFFICULTIES.

WHAT THE
HELL---?!!

AFTER THAT,
RECOVERY IS
QUICK.

NNGGGHH...

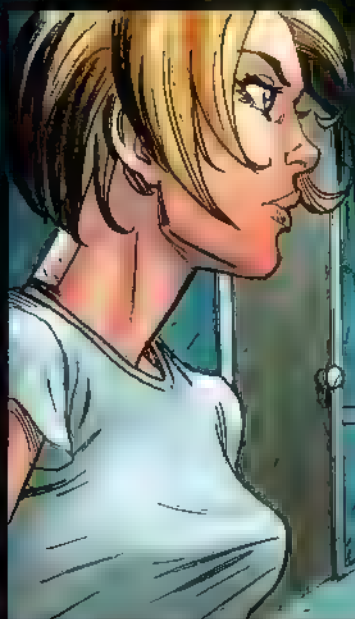
ESPECIALLY IN
STRONG SUBJECTS
LIKE THIS ONE.

Deeeeeeeeee...Beep...Deeee

DOUBTLESS, WHEN SHE AWAKENS, SHE
WILL BE CONFUSED AND DISORIENTED.



A COMMON REACTION TO A
VERY UNCOMMON SITUATION.



AFTER ALL, HER LAST
MEMORY WILL BE AN ATTACK
FROM A MYSTERIOUS
ASSAILANT.

HHH?

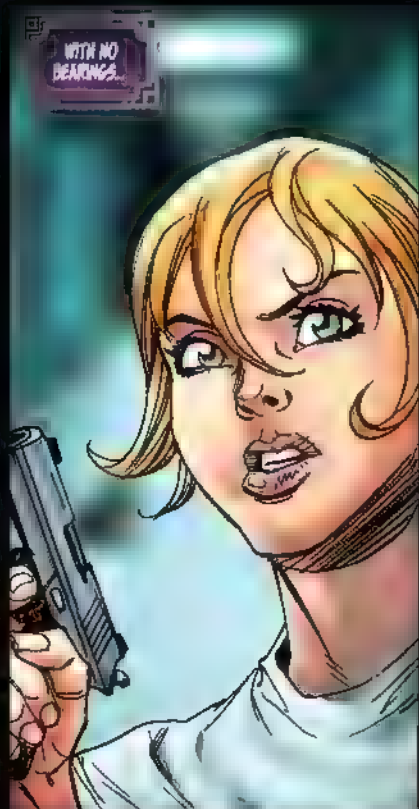
PATPATPATPATPAT



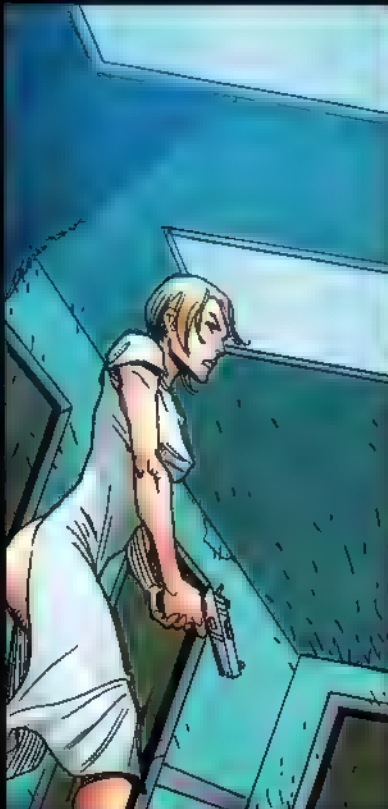
STILL, EXECUTIVE
ASSISTANTS ARE ANYTHING,
IF NOT RESOURCEFUL.

THWAAKK

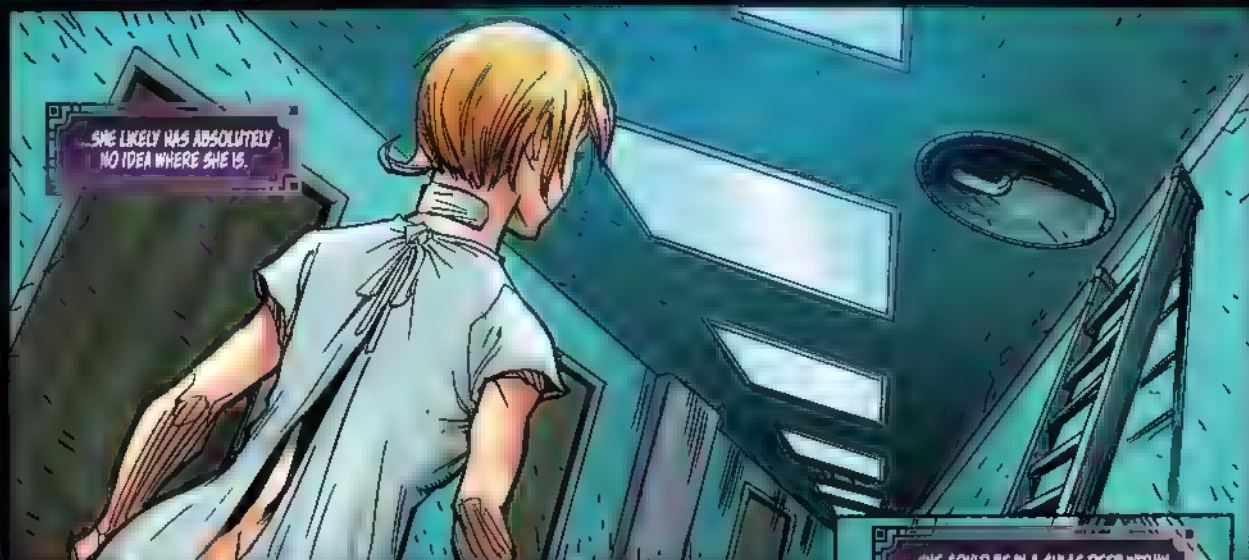




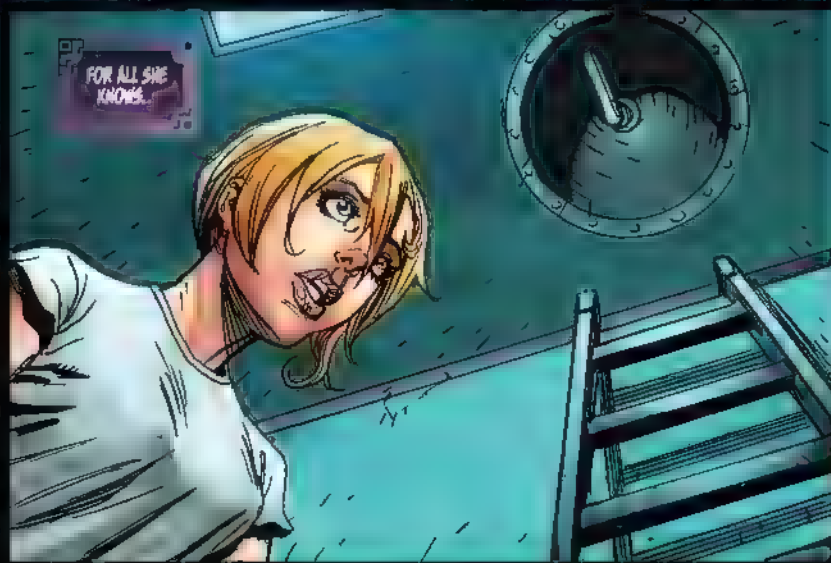
WITH NO
HEARINGS.



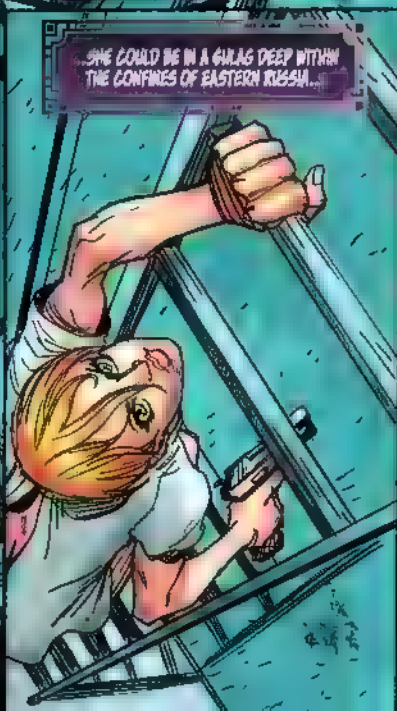
OR VISUAL CUES FROM
THE OUTSIDE WORLD.



SHE LIKELY WAS ABSOLUTELY
NO IDEA WHERE SHE IS.



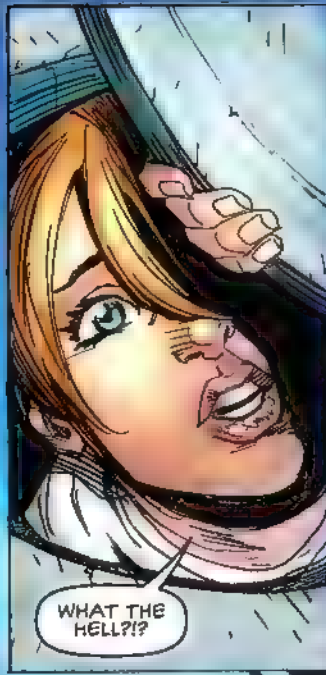
FOR ALL SHE
KNOWS.



SHE COULD BE IN A GULAG DEEP WITHIN
THE CONFINES OF EASTERN RUSSIA.



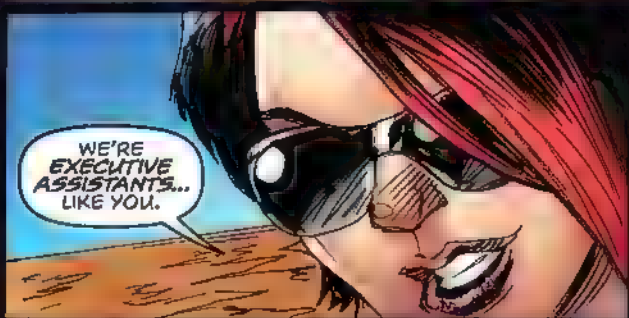
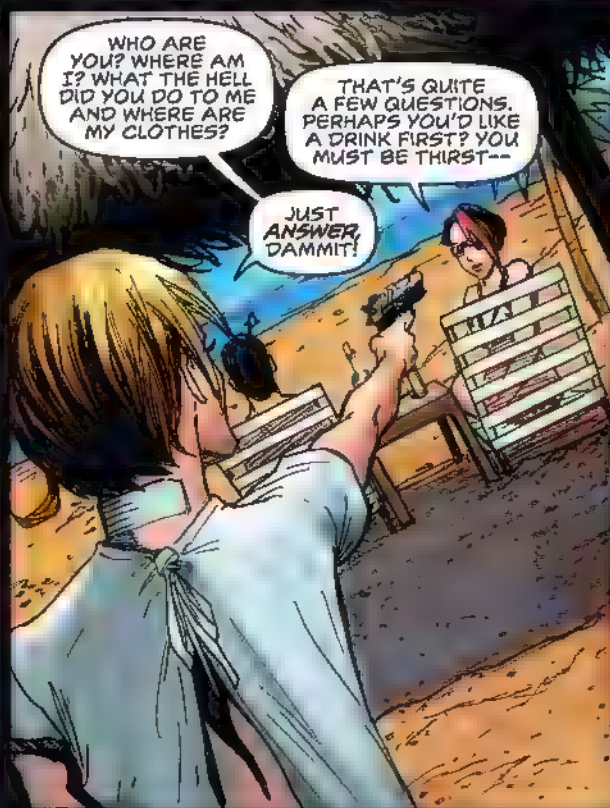
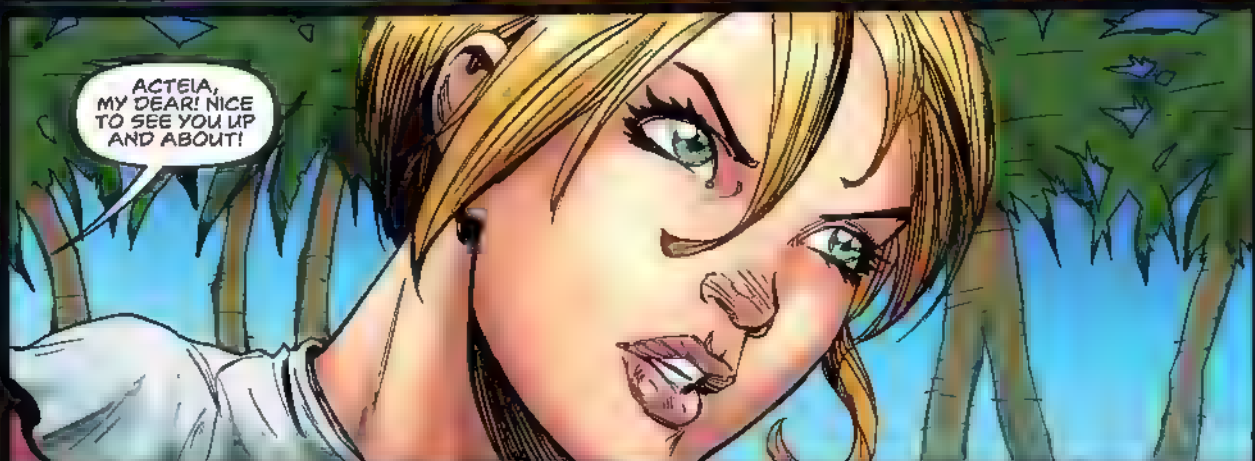
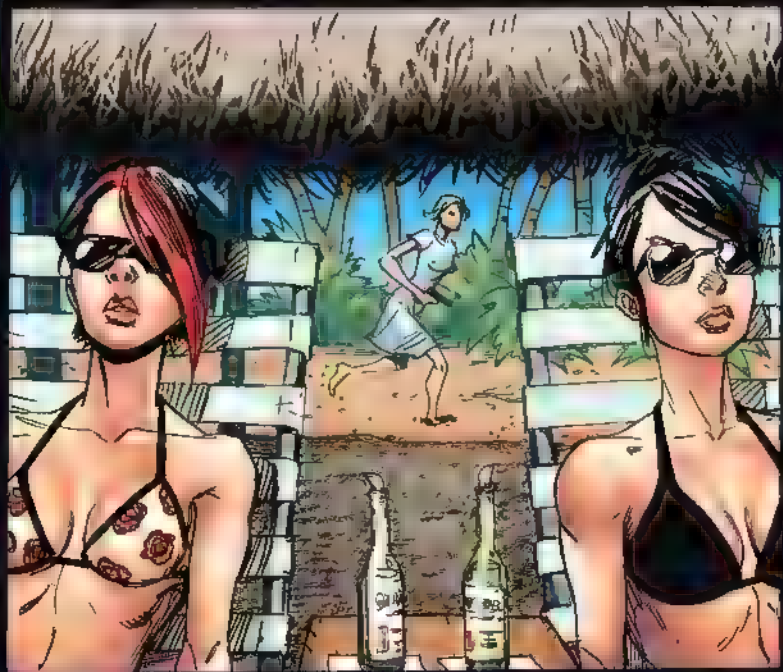
OR PERHAPS.



WHAT THE HELL?!

SOMEPLACE A
BIT MORE
EXOTIC.

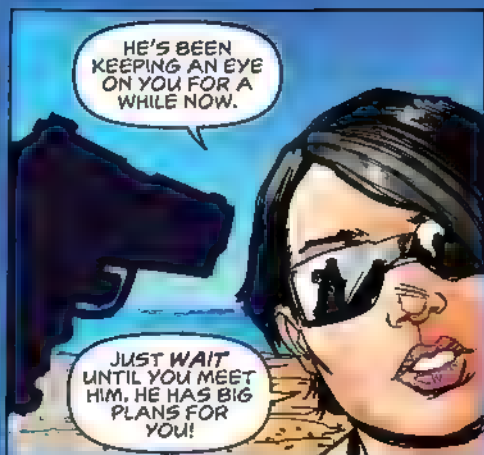






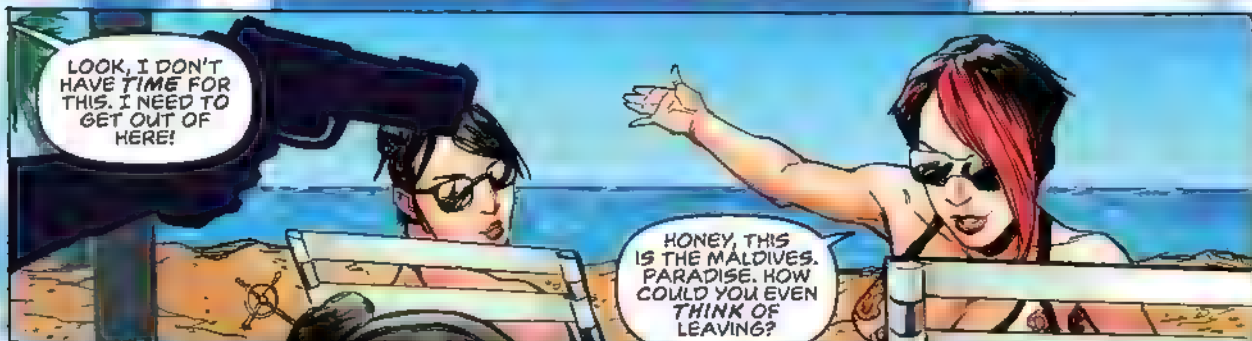
WHY'D YOU BRING ME HERE?

OUR EMPLOYER TOLD US TO, SILLY.



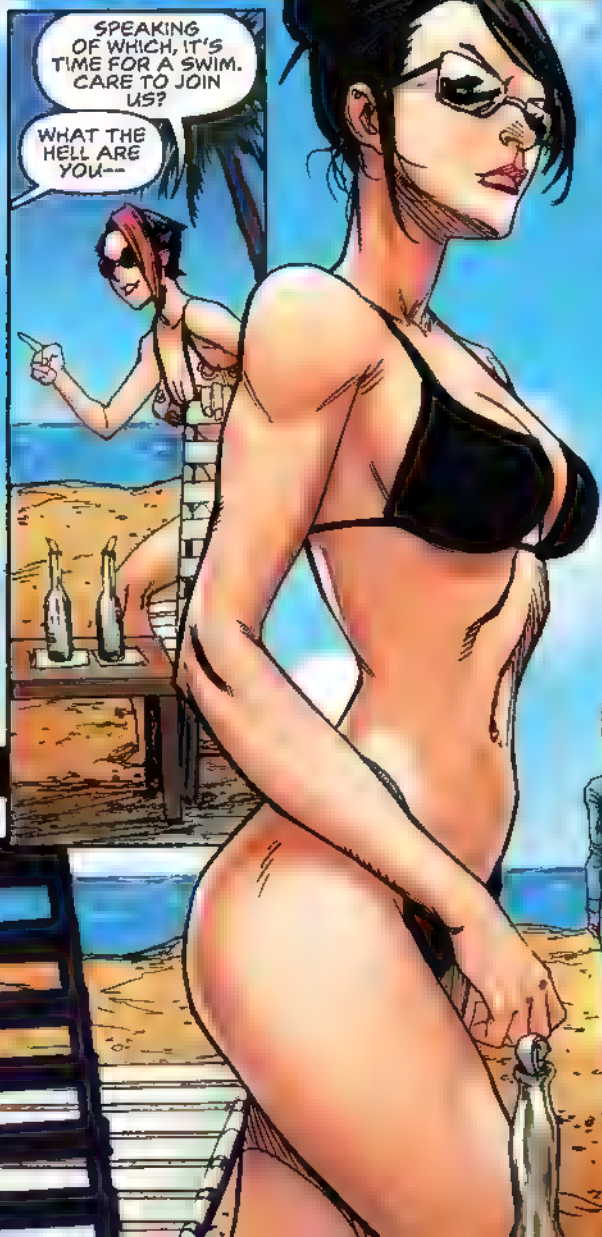
HE'S BEEN KEEPING AN EYE ON YOU FOR A WHILE NOW.

JUST WAIT UNTIL YOU MEET HIM, HE HAS BIG PLANS FOR YOU!



LOOK, I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS. I NEED TO GET OUT OF HERE!

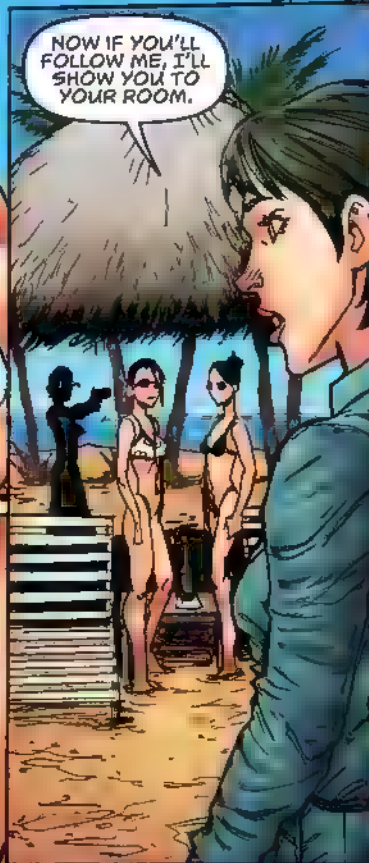
HONEY, THIS IS THE MALDIVES. PARADISE. HOW COULD YOU EVEN THINK OF LEAVING?



SPEAKING OF WHICH, IT'S TIME FOR A SWIM. CARE TO JOIN US?

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU--

EXCUSE ME, MS. ACTEIA, MISTER VILLONE WELCOMES YOU TO HIS RESIDENCE, AND REQUESTS YOUR PRESENCE AT A LUNCHEON ON THE SOUTH TERRACE.



NOW IF YOU'LL FOLLOW ME, I'LL SHOW YOU TO YOUR ROOM.



HERE IS YOUR ROOM, MS. ACTEIA. MISTER VILLONE WANTED YOU CLOSE TO HIM AND THE OTHER ASSISTANTS.



THIS IS YOUR ATTIRE FOR THE DAY. PLEASE SUMMON ME IF IT NEEDS ANY ADJUSTMENTS.

YOU HAVE APPROXIMATELY FIFTEEN MINUTES TO PREPARE FOR LUNCH.

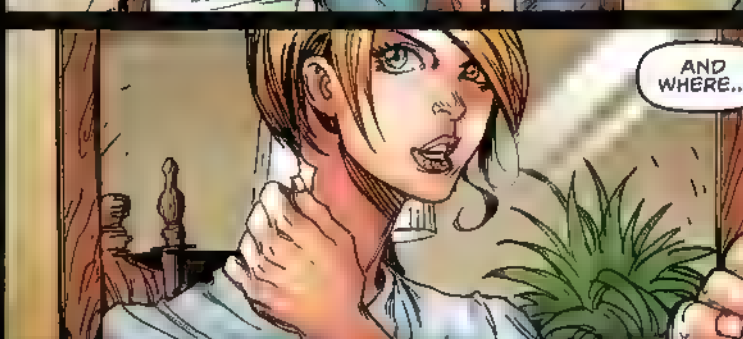


IF YOU NEED ANYTHING ELSE, DON'T HESITATE TO ASK.

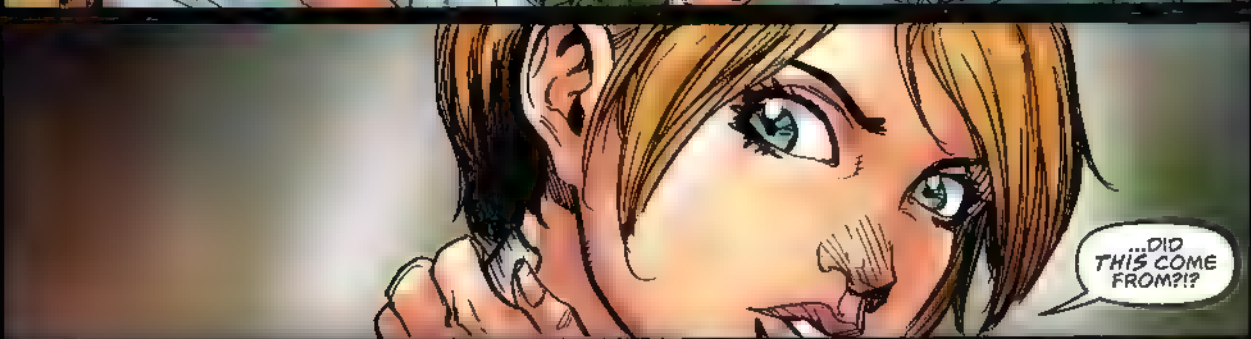
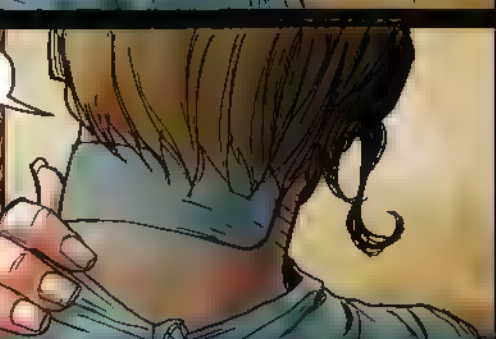
TH-THANK YOU!?



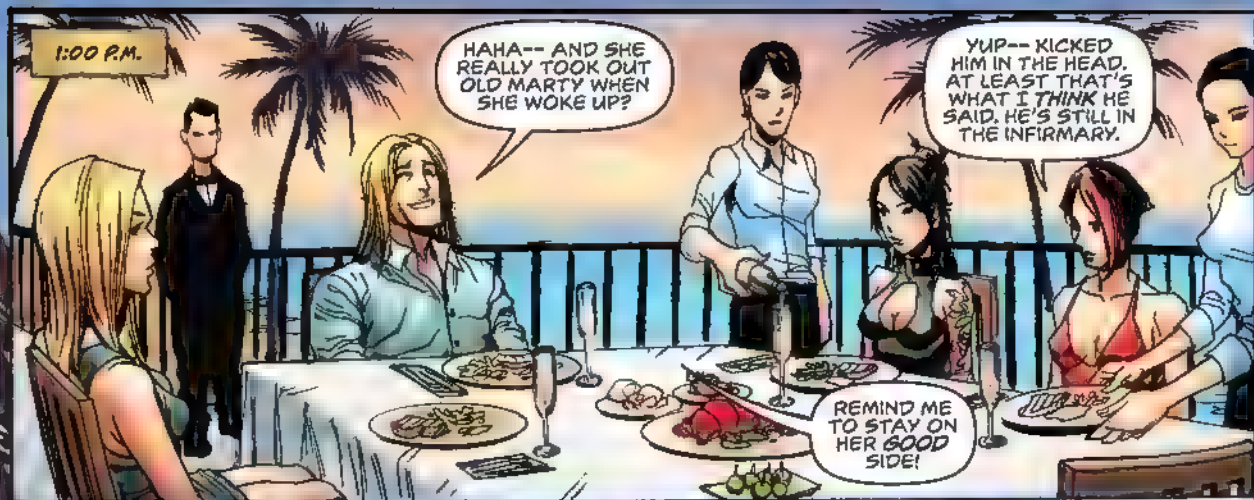
JESUS, ACTEIA. WHAT HAVE YOU GOTTEN YOURSELF INTO?



AND WHERE...



...DID THIS COME FROM!?



1:00 P.M.

HAHA-- AND SHE REALLY TOOK OUT OLD MARTY WHEN SHE WOKE UP?

YUP-- KICKED HIM IN THE HEAD. AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT I THINK HE SAID. HE'S STILL IN THE INFIRMARY.

REMAND ME TO STAY ON HER GOOD SIDE!

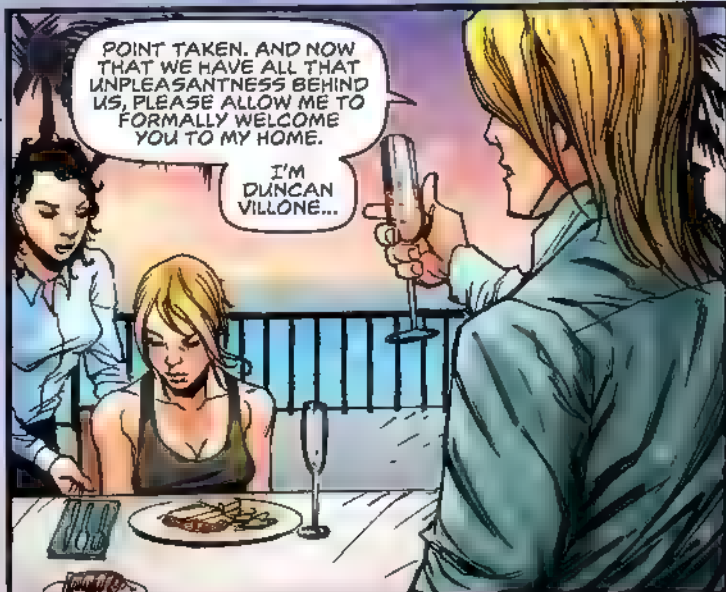
SPEAK OF THE DEVIL!!! WELCOME ACTEIA!

I BELIEVE YOU'VE ALREADY MET IRIS AND ROSE-- AT GUNPOINT, I HEAR!

YES, WELL, PLEASE FORGIVE ME--

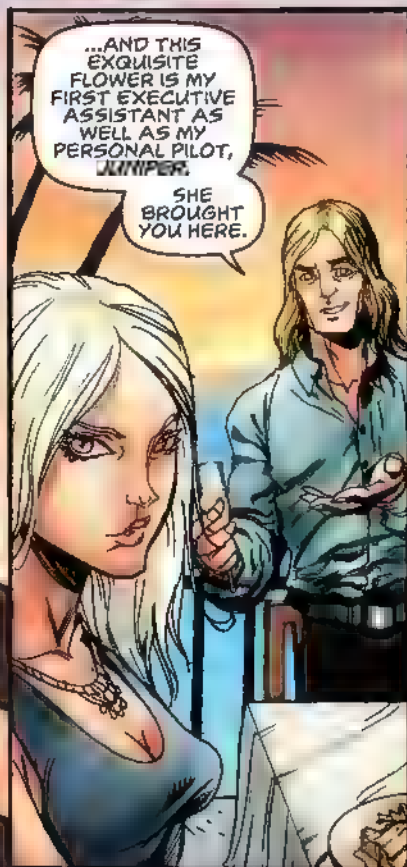
--I DON'T NORMALLY FIND MYSELF KIDNAPPED AND OPERATED UPON AGAINST MY WILL, EITHER.

IT TENDS TO DAMPEN MY MOOD.



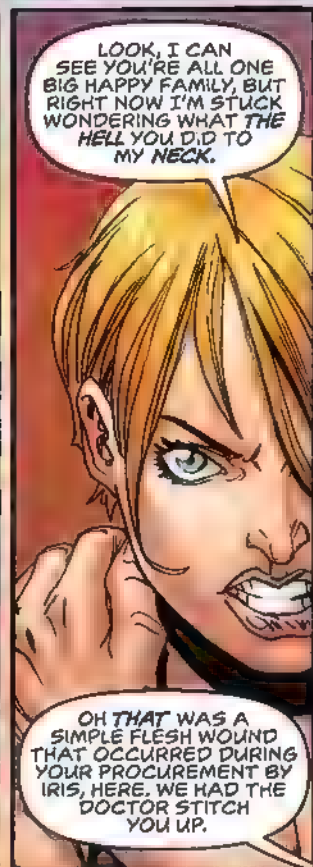
POINT TAKEN. AND NOW THAT WE HAVE ALL THAT UNPLEASANTNESS BEHIND US, PLEASE ALLOW ME TO FORMALLY WELCOME YOU TO MY HOME.

I'M DUNCAN VILLONE...



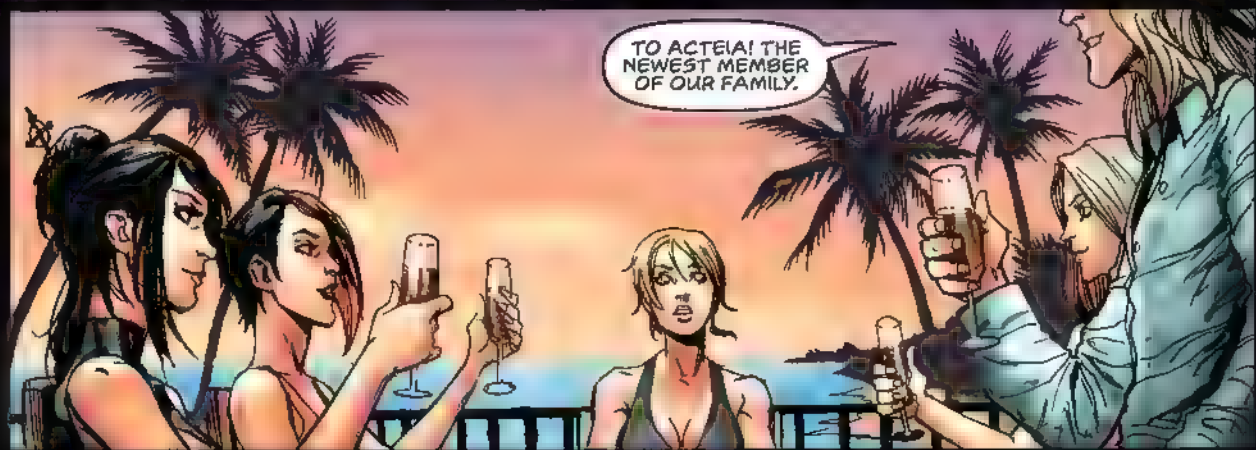
...AND THIS EXQUISITE FLOWER IS MY FIRST EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT AS WELL AS MY PERSONAL PILOT, JINXPER.

SHE BROUGHT YOU HERE.

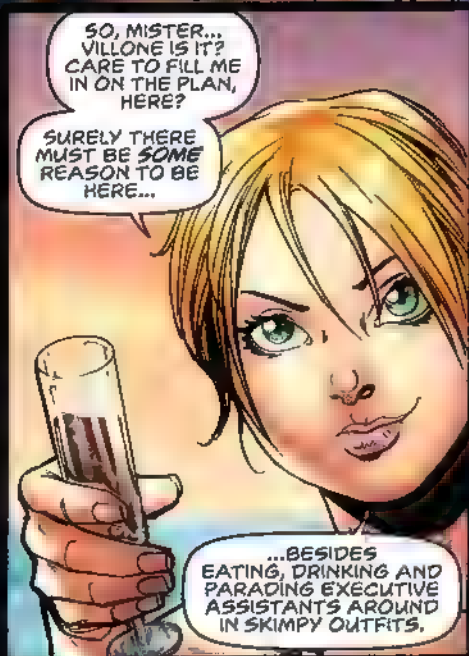


LOOK, I CAN SEE YOU'RE ALL ONE BIG HAPPY FAMILY, BUT RIGHT NOW I'M STUCK WONDERING WHAT THE HELL YOU DID TO MY NECK.

OH THAT WAS A SIMPLE FLESH WOUND THAT OCCURRED DURING YOUR PROCUREMENT BY IRIS, HERE. WE HAD THE DOCTOR STITCH YOU UP.



TO ACTEIA! THE
NEWEST MEMBER
OF OUR FAMILY.



SO, MISTER...
VILLONE IS IT?
CARE TO FILL ME
IN ON THE PLAN,
HERE?

SURELY THERE
MUST BE *SOME*
REASON TO BE
HERE...

...BESIDES
EATING, DRINKING AND
PARADING EXECUTIVE
ASSISTANTS AROUND
IN SKIMPY OUTFITS.

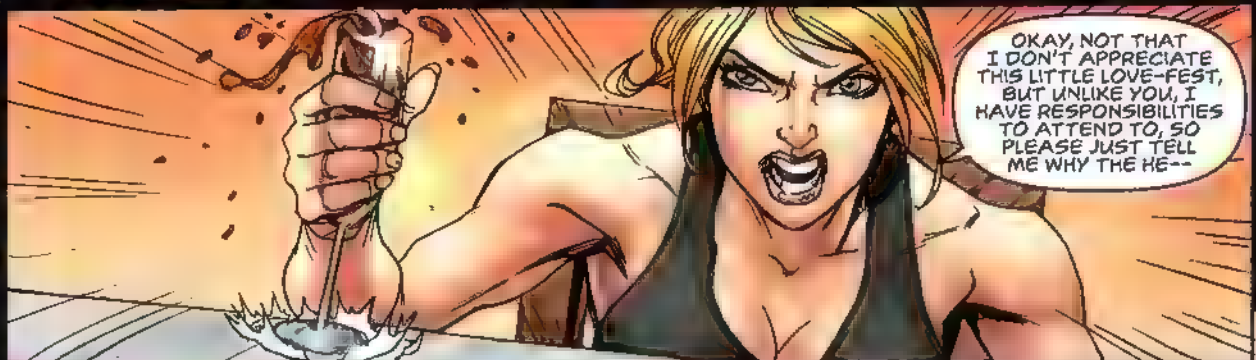


IN DUE
TIME, MY
DEAR.



IF I MAY, I CAN HONESTLY
SAY THAT I'VE NEVER BEEN
HAPPIER THAN I AM NOW,
AND I WOULDN'T DREAM
OF LEAVING.

JUST GIVE IT
TIME, ACTEIA.
BEFORE YOU
KNOW IT, YOU'LL
FEEL THE
SAME.



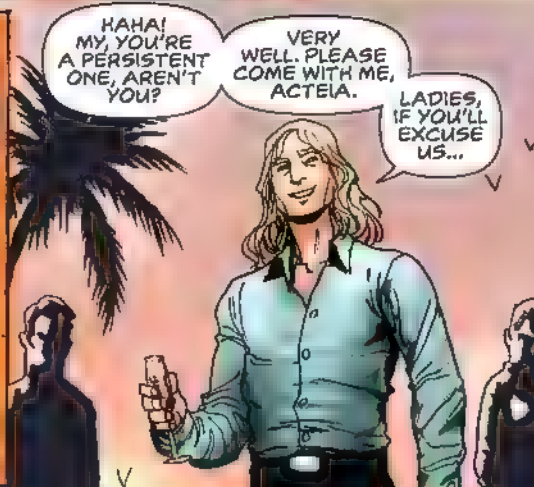
OKAY, NOT THAT
I DON'T APPRECIATE
THIS LITTLE LOVE-FEST,
BUT UNLIKE YOU, I
HAVE RESPONSIBILITIES
TO ATTEND TO, SO
PLEASE JUST TELL
ME WHY THE HE--



ADDRESS
ME WITH THAT
TONE AGAIN
AND I WON'T
HESITATE TO
PUNISH
YOU!

DO YOU
UNDERSTAND
ME?

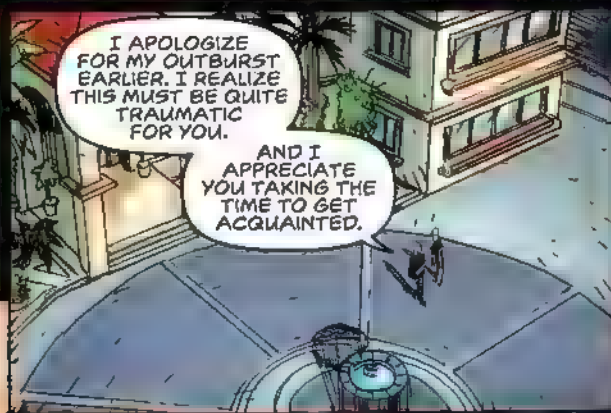
YOU
BET.



HAHA!
MY, YOU'RE
A PERSISTENT
ONE, AREN'T
YOU?

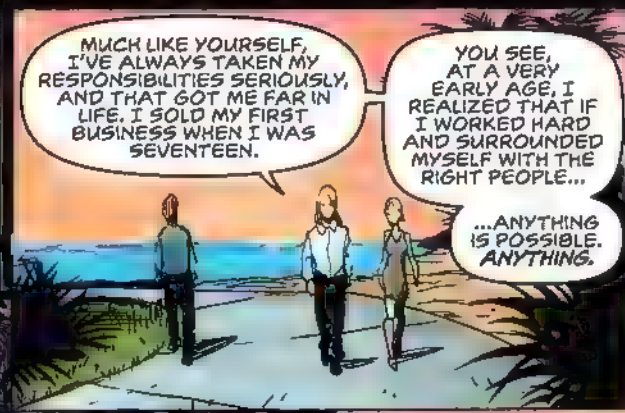
VERY
WELL. PLEASE
COME WITH ME,
ACTEIA.

LADIES,
IF YOU'LL
EXCUSE
US...



I APOLOGIZE FOR MY OUTBURST EARLIER. I REALIZE THIS MUST BE QUITE TRAUMATIC FOR YOU.

AND I APPRECIATE YOU TAKING THE TIME TO GET ACQUAINTED.



MUCH LIKE YOURSELF, I'VE ALWAYS TAKEN MY RESPONSIBILITIES SERIOUSLY, AND THAT GOT ME FAR IN LIFE. I SOLD MY FIRST BUSINESS WHEN I WAS SEVENTEEN.

YOU SEE, AT A VERY EARLY AGE, I REALIZED THAT IF I WORKED HARD AND SURROUNDED MYSELF WITH THE RIGHT PEOPLE...

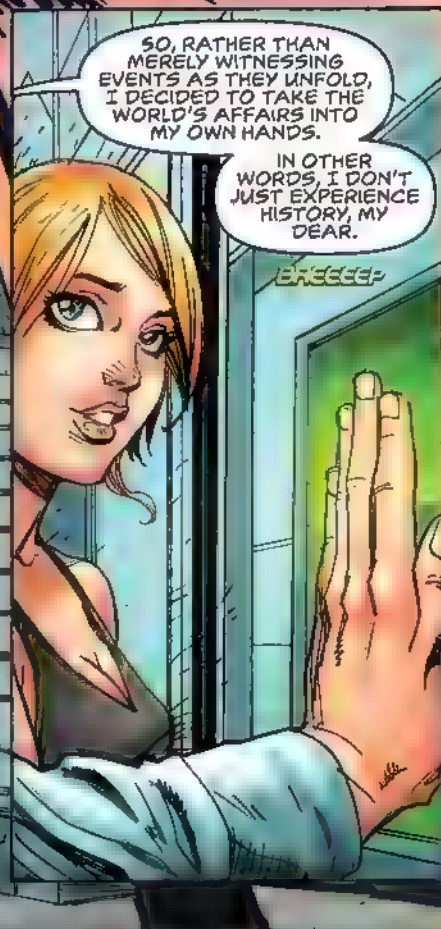
...ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE. ANYTHING.



I ALSO REALIZED THAT ALL OF MY COMPANIES-- THE AIRLINES, THE TECH BUSINESSES, AND THE CHEMICAL FACILITIES-- ALL HAD ONE THING IN COMMON:

THEY WERE ALWAYS AT THE MERCY OF EVENTS OCCURRING AROUND THEM. AND WHEN YOU'RE GUIDING COMPANIES ALL OVER THE WORLD, THAT CAN MEAN A LOT OF UNCERTAINTY.

WARS, POLITICAL TURMOIL, NATURAL DISASTERS, EVEN EMPLOYEE INCOMPETENCE--ANY OF THESE CAN LEAD TO DIRE CONSEQUENCES FOR THE GLOBAL ENTREPRENEUR.



SO, RATHER THAN MERELY WITNESSING EVENTS AS THEY UNFOLD, I DECIDED TO TAKE THE WORLD'S AFFAIRS INTO MY OWN HANDS.

IN OTHER WORDS, I DON'T JUST EXPERIENCE HISTORY, MY DEAR.



I MAKE IT!



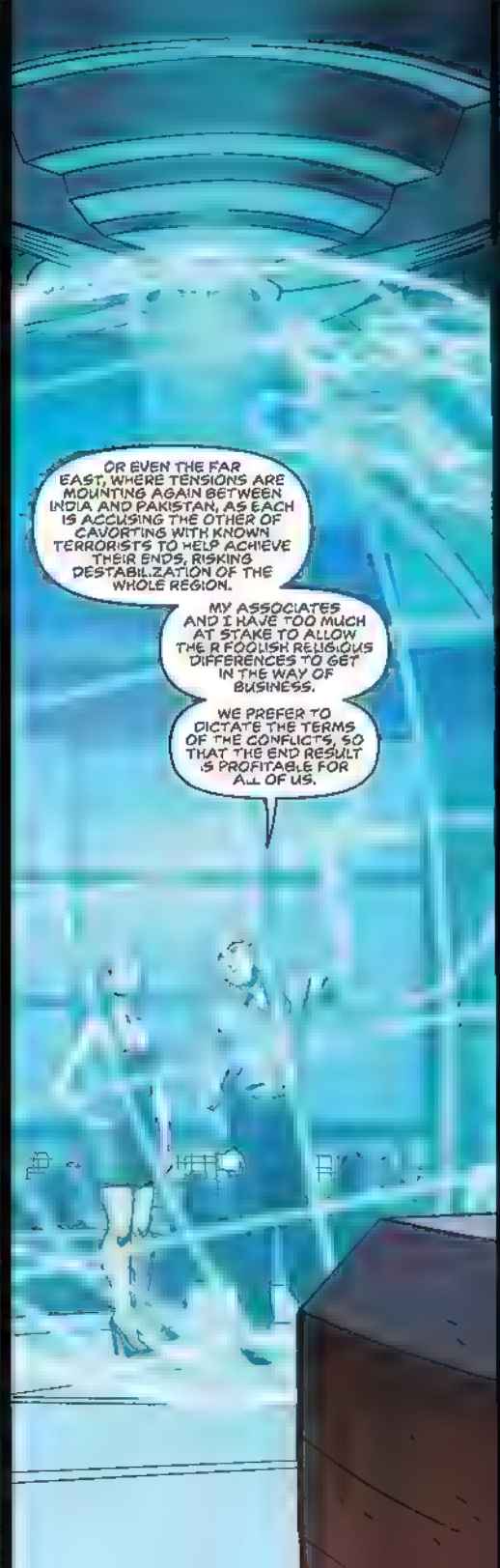
YOU SEE,
THE WORLD IS A
VOLATILE PLACE,
ACTEIA.

I MAKE IT MY
BUSINESS TO KNOW
WHERE CONFLICTS
WILL OCCUR AND
WHY.



TAKE COLOMBIA,
WHERE DRUG CARTELS
ARE WAGING WAR AGAINST
AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN,
DRIVING THE PRICE OF OIL
HIGHER THROUGH VICIOUS
ATTACKS ON OIL
PIPELINES.

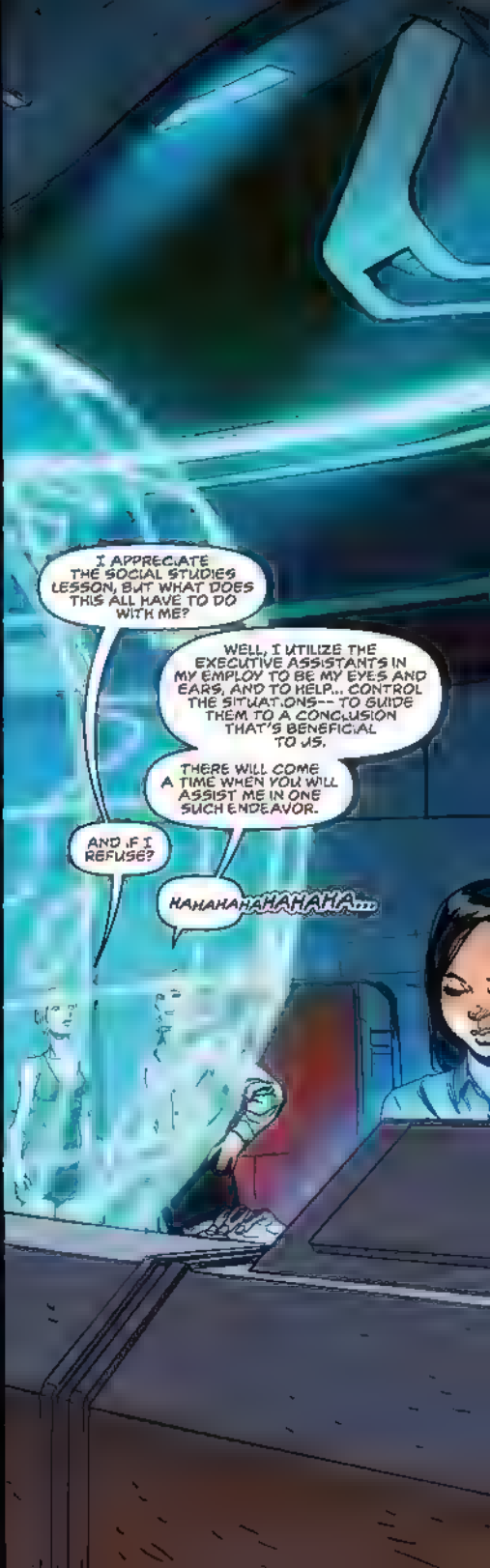
OR SCOTLAND, WHERE THE
WORLDWIDE CONGLOMERATE
VALCHEM HAS BEEN VICTIMIZED BY
SABOTEURS BENT ON CRIPPLING ITS
BUSINESS, SENDING ITS STOCK
PLUMMETING AND COSTING
COUNTLESS LIVES.



OR EVEN THE FAR
EAST, WHERE TENSIONS ARE
MOUNTING AGAIN BETWEEN
INDIA AND PAKISTAN, AS EACH
IS ACCUSING THE OTHER OF
CAVORTING WITH KNOWN
TERRORISTS TO HELP ACHIEVE
THEIR ENDS, RISKING
DESTABILIZATION OF THE
WHOLE REGION.

MY ASSOCIATES
AND I HAVE TOO MUCH
AT STAKE TO ALLOW
THE FOOLISH RELIGIOUS
DIFFERENCES TO GET
IN THE WAY OF
BUSINESS.

WE PREFER TO
DICTATE THE TERMS
OF THE CONFLICTS, SO
THAT THE END RESULT
IS PROFITABLE FOR
ALL OF US.



I APPRECIATE
THE SOCIAL STUDIES
LESSON, BUT WHAT DOES
THIS ALL HAVE TO DO
WITH ME?

WELL, I UTILIZE THE
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANTS IN
MY EMPLOY TO BE MY EYES AND
EARS, AND TO HELP... CONTROL
THE SITUATIONS-- TO GUIDE
THEM TO A CONCLUSION
THAT'S BENEFICIAL
TO US.

THERE WILL COME
A TIME WHEN YOU WILL
ASSIST ME IN ONE
SUCH ENDEAVOR.

AND IF I
REFUSE?

HAHAHAHAHAHAHA...

12:50 A.M.



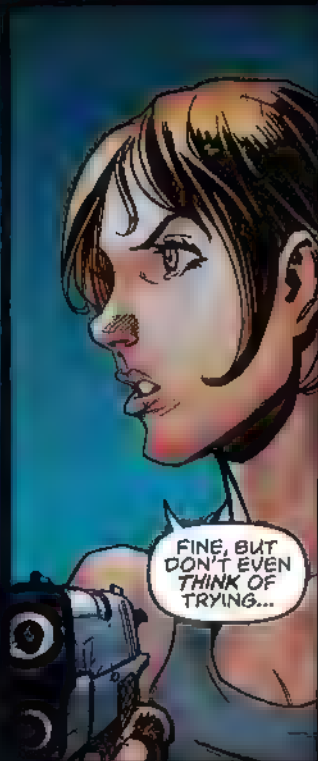
WHAT---

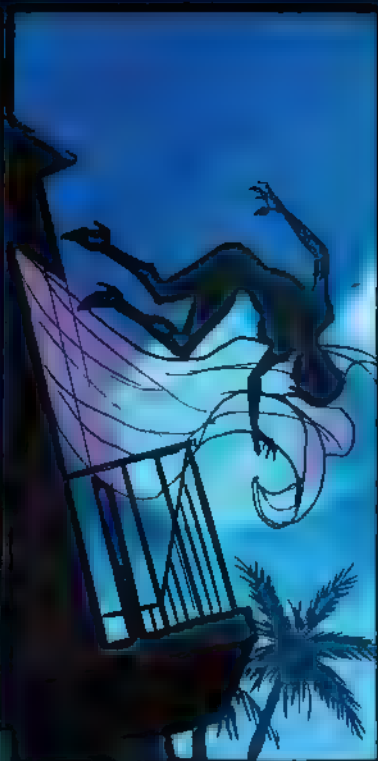
SHHH...

DUNCAN, I'VE
GIVEN THOUGHTFUL
CONSIDERATION TO
YOUR GENEROUS
OFFER...

...BUT I'M
AFRAID I MUST
DECLINE.







MASTER VILLONE'S
ORDERS WERE
SIMPLE.

SHOW THIS WOMAN
THE ERROR OF
HER WAYS.



I ADMIT THAT I TAKE MORE
PLEASURE IN THIS THAN I SHOULD.

APPARENTLY ROSE
DOES, AS WELL.

PERHAPS IT WAS HER
DISRESPECTFUL TONE TOWARD
OUR EMPLOYER.

JUST
LET ME
GO!

HER LACK
OF GRATITUDE
AFTER SUCH A
MAGNANIMOUS
OFFER.

~GASP~





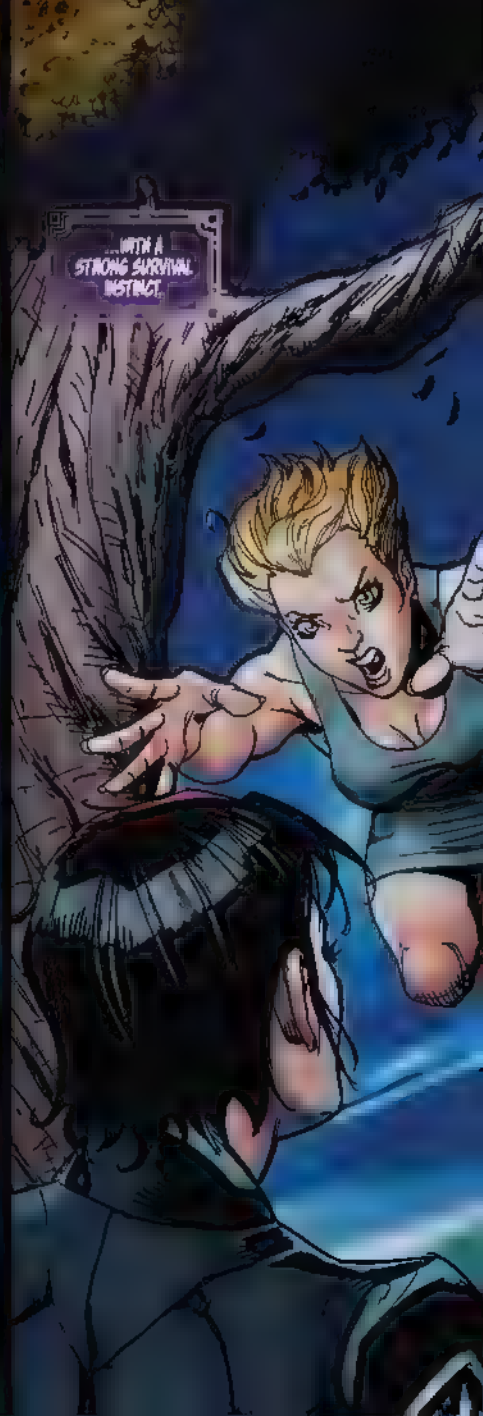
I MUST ADMIT, THOUGH,
ACTEIA IS A FORMIDABLE
FIGHTER...



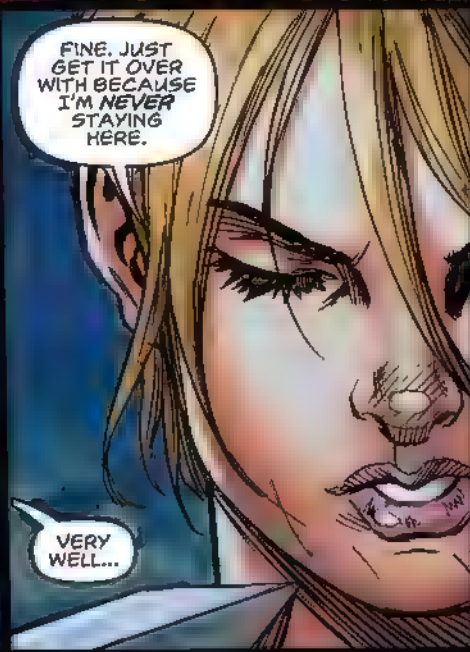
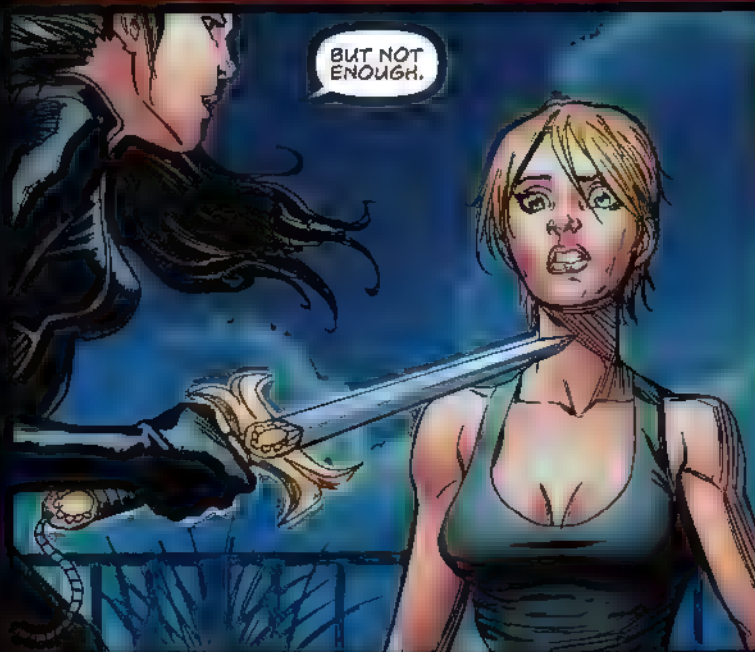
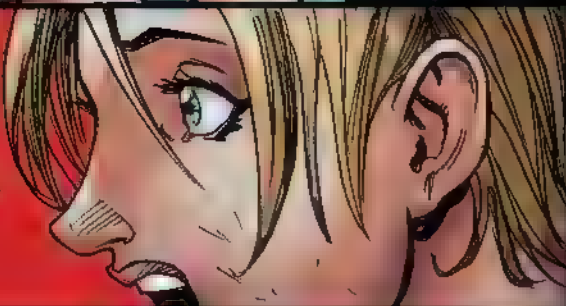
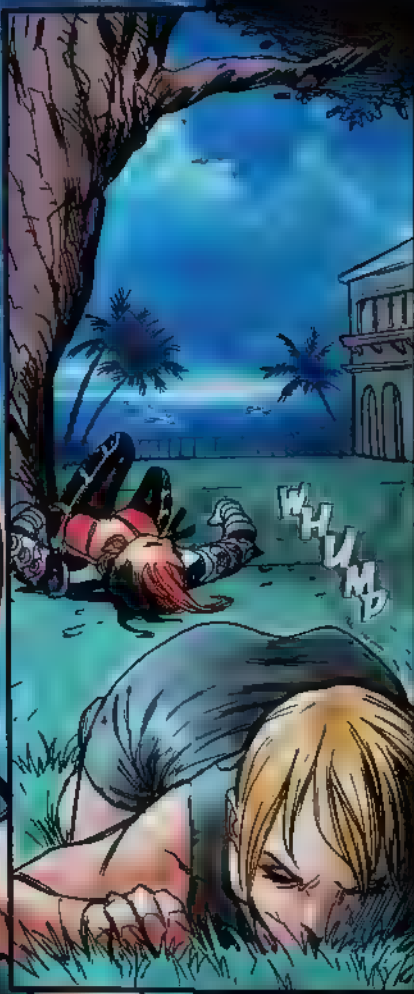
...AS I SURMISED DURING
HER SESSIONS IN DUBAI
AND LOS ANGELES.



SHE'S RESOURCEFUL
AND DYNAMIC.

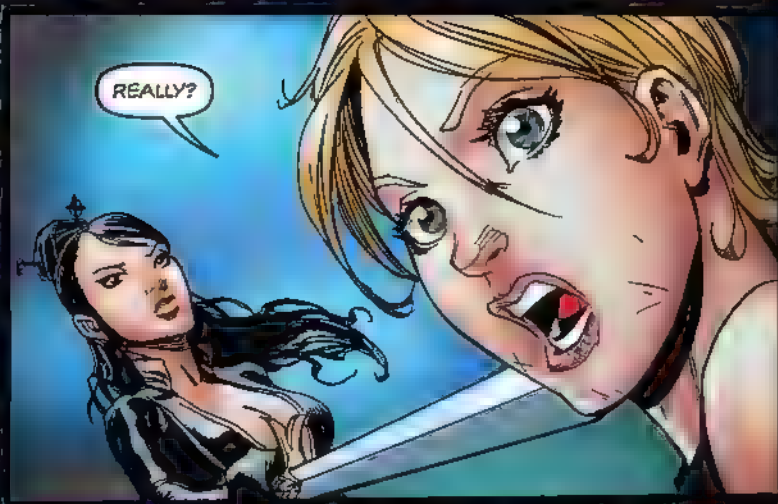


...WITH A
STRONG SURVIVAL
INSTINCT.

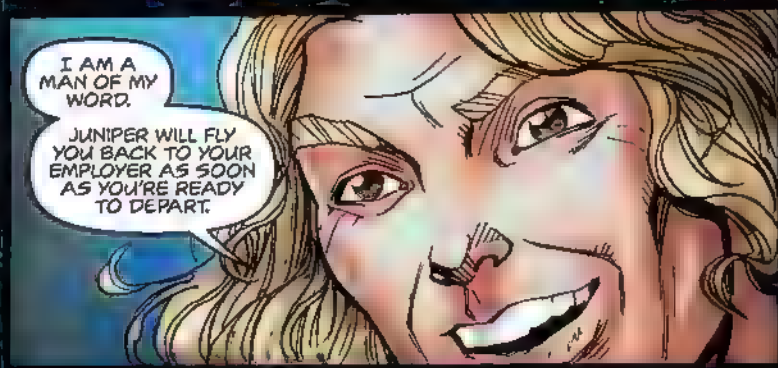




...YOU'RE
FREE TO GO, AS
PROMISED.



REALLY?



I AM A
MAN OF MY
WORD.

JUNIPER WILL FLY
YOU BACK TO YOUR
EMPLOYER AS SOON
AS YOU'RE READY
TO DEPART.



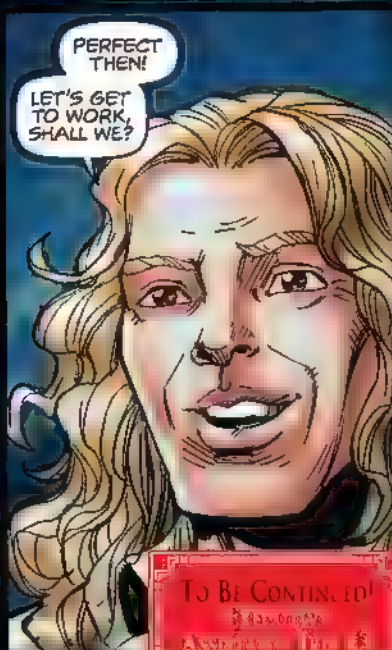
SO, LADIES, HOW
DID YOUNG ACTEIA
FARE DURING OUR
LITTLE EXERCISE?

DO YOU
THINK SHE'S
READY?



PHYSICALLY YES,
BUT SHE'S QUITE...
WILLFUL, AS YOU
KNOW.

THAT WILL
PASS.



PERFECT
THEN!

LET'S GET
TO WORK,
SHALL WE?

TO BE CONTINUED!



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ISSUE #3 of 5
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"WHAT HAVE YOU DONE FOR
ME LATELY?"

DAVID WOHL

RYAN ODAGAWA

TEODORO GONZALEZ

JOSH REED



PART 3 - 5

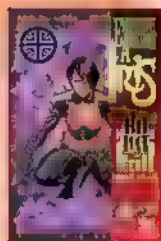


Executive Assistant
Residence, Dul

house and exotic island



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NEED-CHANGE

SEVERAL MONTHS AGO...

WHO WAS DANIEL COVERDALE? HE WAS A BRILLIANT BUSINESSMAN, LOVING HUSBAND, AND GENEROUS PHILANTHROPIST.

HE WAS A MAN WHO TOUCHED ALL OF OUR LIVES WITH HIS LOVE, HIS COMPASSION, HIS LEADERSHIP-- BUT HIS TIME ON THIS EARTH WAS TRAGICALLY CUT SHORT.

BUT RATHER THAN MOURN THIS GREAT MAN, IF DANIEL WERE HERE, HE'D WANT US TO CELEBRATE HIS LIFE, AND TO EMBRACE ALL THOSE WHOM HE TOUCHED WITH HIS GOODNESS, WITH HIS LOVE.

AND SO LET US GRIEVE TODAY. LET US LOOK INTO THE FACE OF GOD, AND LET US LISTEN FOR HIS VOICE, BECAUSE HE WILL SPEAK TO US.

AMEN.



HE LOVED YOU SO MUCH, YOU KNOW.

DIANE...

I AM SO TERRIBLY SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS.

I LOVED HIM TOO, MRS. COVERDALE. THANK YOU... AND I'M SORRY.



THANK YOU, VIRAT. YOU WERE ALWAYS A GOOD FRIEND TO DANNY.

I'VE TRIED TO BE, DIANE, BUT YOU KNOW DANIEL. HE COULD BE... HEADSTRONG.



I FEAR HE MAY HAVE GOTTEN INTO SOME... DANGEROUS BUSINESS... THAT MAY HAVE COST HIM HIS LIFE.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, VIRAT? THE POLICE SAY THAT IT WAS JUST RAND--



DIANE-- I HOPE-- I PRAY-- THAT IT WAS JUST UNFORTUNATE, AND TRAGIC CIRCUMSTANCES.

OH, BUT THIS ISN'T THE PLACE FOR SUCH TALK. I'M JUST DEEPLY SORRY AND WISH YOU ALL THE BEST.



TH-THANK YOU FOR COMING, VIRAT.

I ALMOST FORGOT-- HERE, I BROUGHT THIS FOR YOU. IT WAS A WONDERFUL TIME.

PLEASE, DIANE, LET'S STAY IN TOUCH...

MALIBU, CALIFORNIA.
4:45 A.M. NOW.



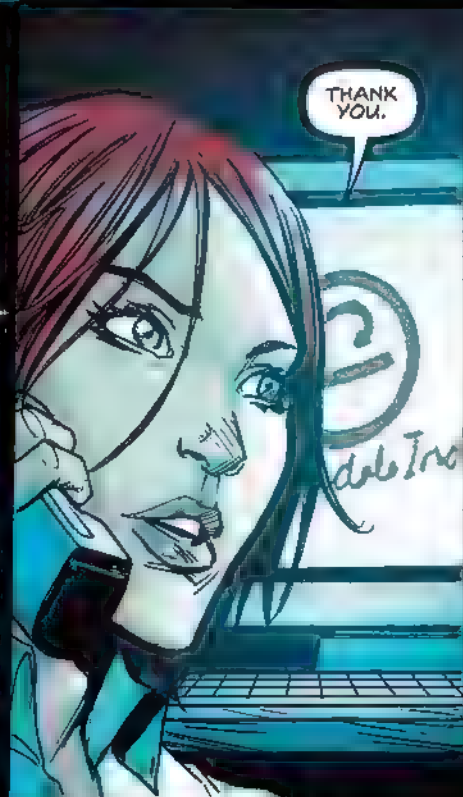
HELLO, THIS IS
DIANE COVERDALE.
I WAS CURIOUS IF VIRAT
WAS AVAILABLE.

I NEED
TO SPEAK WITH
HIM ON A MATTER OF
SOME URGENCY.

I APOLOGIZE,
MRS. COVERDALE,
BUT HE IS UNAVAILABLE
AT THE MOMENT, HE IS OUT
OF THE COUNTRY ON
OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

I WILL
GLADLY LEAVE
HIM A MESSAGE TO
CALL AT HIS EARLIEST
CONVENIENCE.

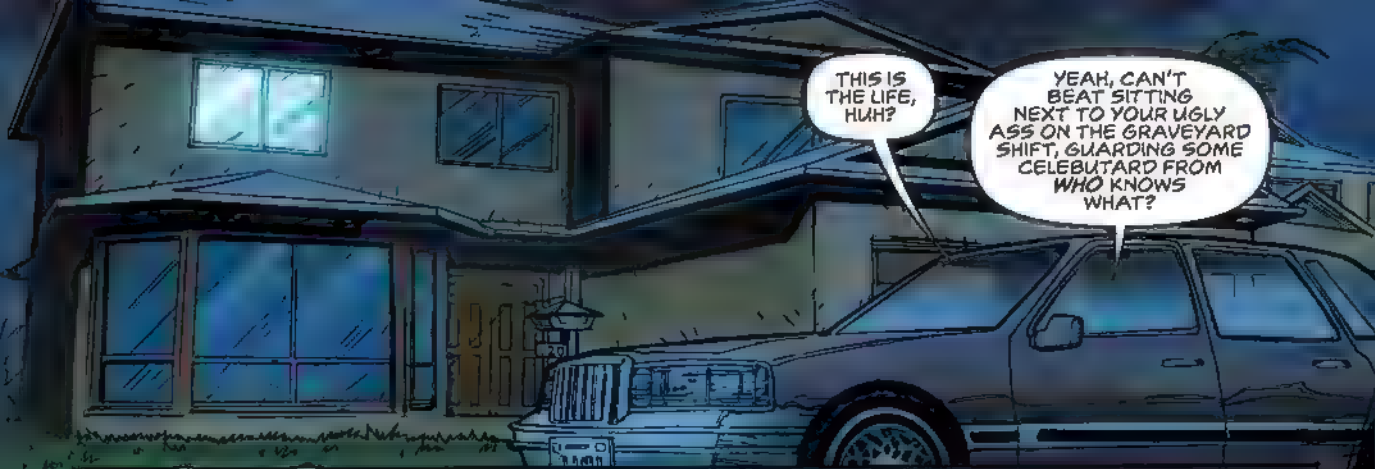
THANK
YOU.



DAMMIT,
DANIEL.

WHAT
HAVE YOU
GOTTEN US
INTO?





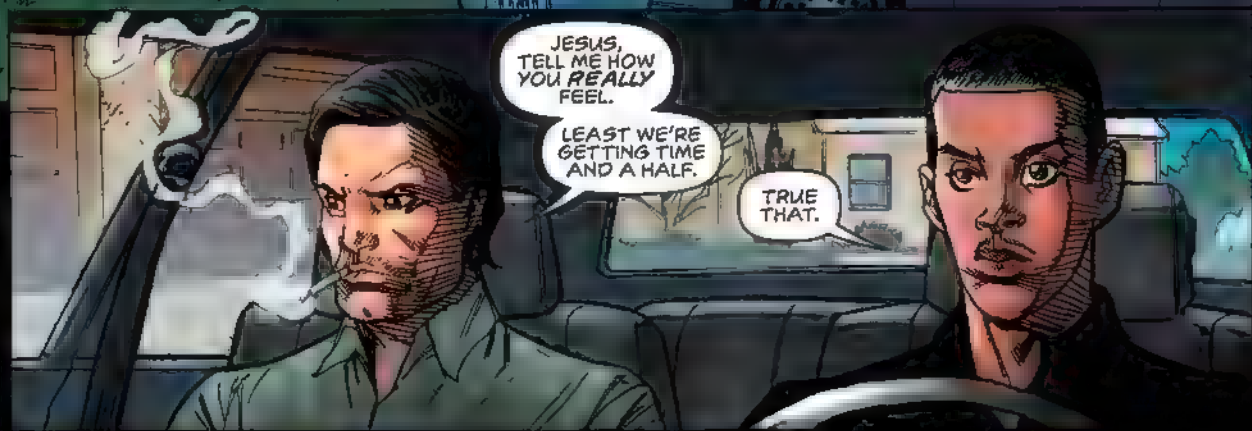
THIS IS
THE LIFE,
HUH?

YEAH, CAN'T
BEAT SITTING
NEXT TO YOUR UGLY
ASS ON THE GRAVEYARD
SHIFT, GUARDING SOME
CELEBRITY FROM
WHO KNOWS
WHAT?

JESUS,
TELL ME HOW
YOU REALLY
FEEL.

LEAST WE'RE
GETTING TIME
AND A HALF.

TRUE
THAT.



BUT I THOUGHT
SHE SPRUNG FOR SOME
PERSONAL BODYGUARD OR
SOME SHIT. SAID WE
WEREN'T GOOD
ENOUGH.

HEARD SHE WENT
AWOL. FIGURES.
AMATEURS...

WHERE THE
HELL DID YOU
GO, ACTEIA?

WHY'D I
EVEN GET YOU
IN THE FIRST
PLACE?

I SHOULD'VE
NEVER GOTTEN
INVOLVED WITH
THESE EXECUTIVE
ASSISTANTS.

SEEMS LIKE
WHEREVER THEY
ARE, TROUBLE
FOLLOWS...



WHA



NOW
WHAT?

—GASP!—

FOR THE
LAST TIME, TELL
ME WHAT YOU'RE
DOING HERE OR
I'LL BLOW YOUR
GODDAMMED
HEAD OFF!

H-HEY, JUST
CALM DOWN. WE'RE
POLICE. WORKING
FOR THE LADY!



REALLY?
WELL THEN I
SUGGEST YOU
SHOW---

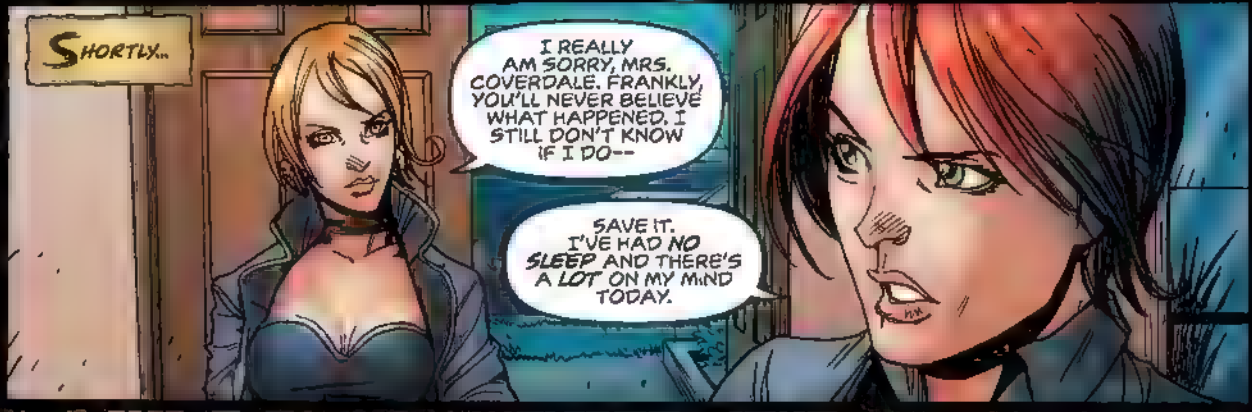
WHAT THE
HELL DO YOU
THINK YOU'RE
DOING?!

THESE POLICE
OFFICERS ARE HERE
TO PROTECT ME,
AFTER YOU VANISHED
TO GOD KNOWS
WHERE...

ACTEIA,
PUT THAT THING
DOWN--- NOW!

MY-- MY
APOLOGIES,
MA'AM...
OFFICERS...

LUCKY I
DON'T HAUL
YOUR ASS
IN...



SHORTLY...

I REALLY
AM SORRY, MRS.
COVERDALE. FRANKLY,
YOU'LL NEVER BELIEVE
WHAT HAPPENED. I
STILL DON'T KNOW
IF I DO--

SAVE IT.
I'VE HAD NO
SLEEP AND THERE'S
A LOT ON MY MIND
TODAY.



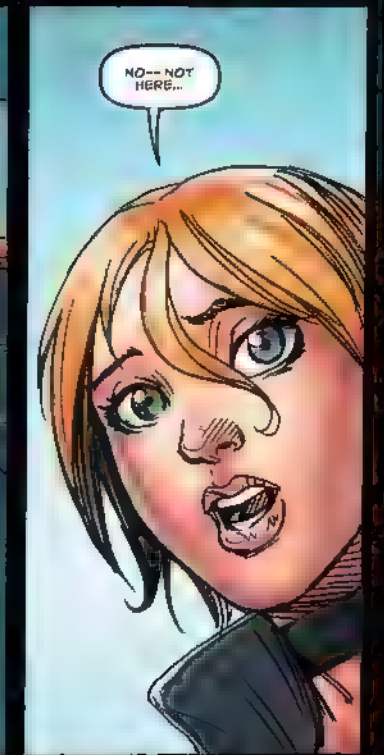
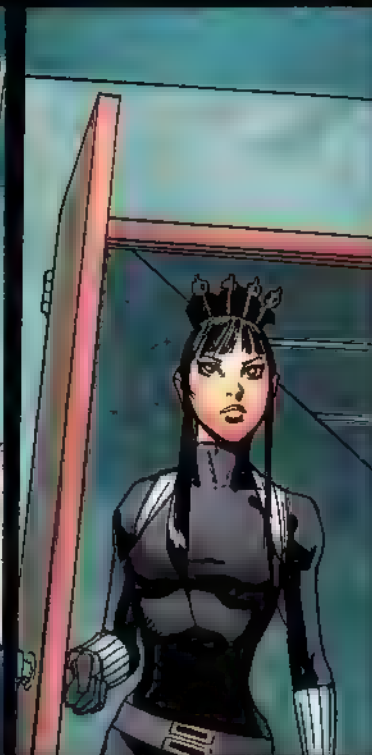
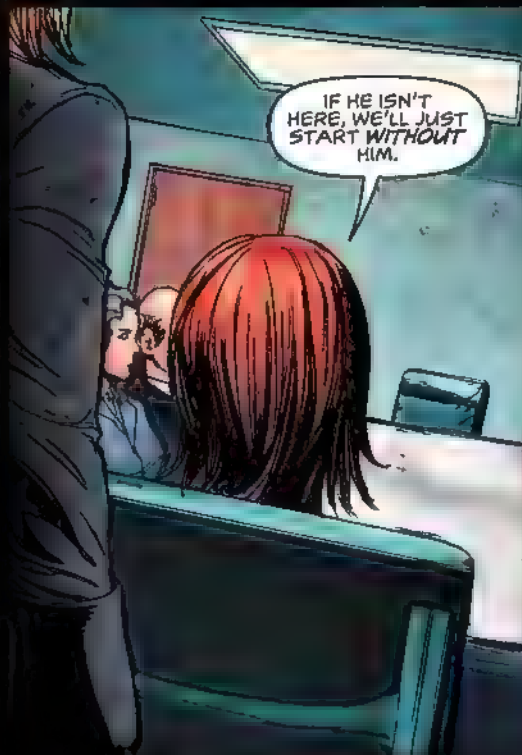
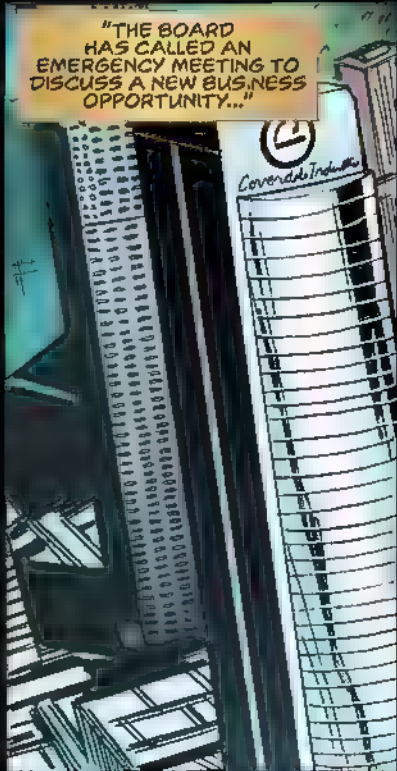
JUST GIVE
ME SOME NOTICE
NEXT TIME YOU NEED
A FEW DAYS OFF,
ALL RIGHT?

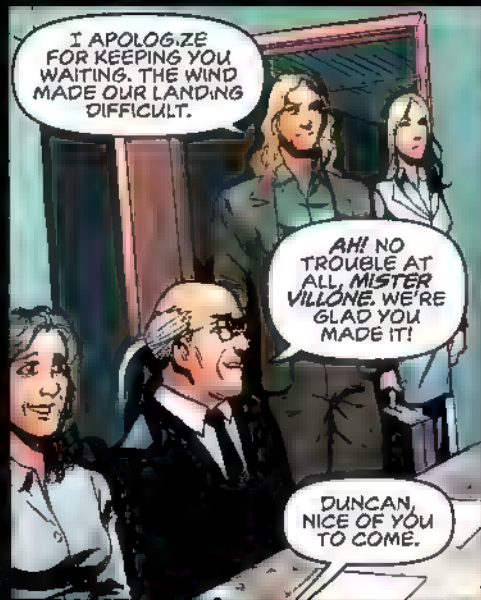


REALLY,
MA'AM, I'VE
NEVER--
I--

UNDERSTOOD.

GOOD. NOW
WE NEED TO
GET READY...

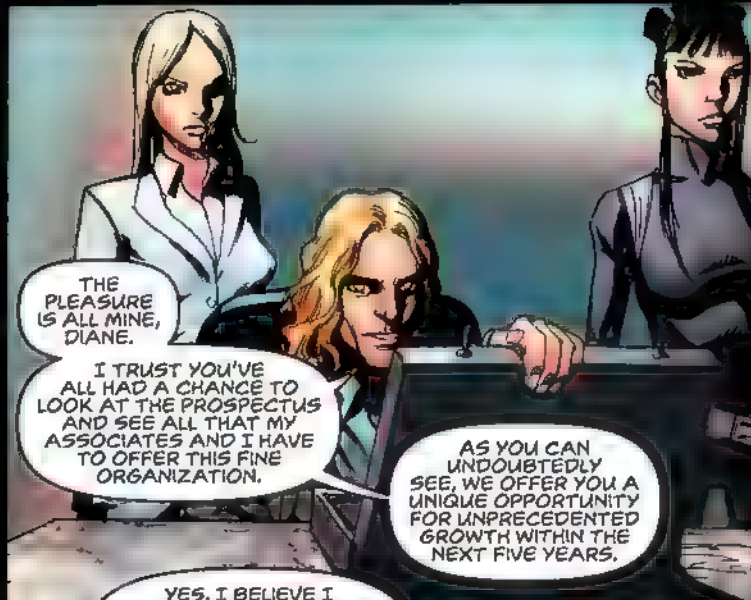




I APOLOGIZE FOR KEEPING YOU WAITING. THE WIND MADE OUR LANDING DIFFICULT.

AH! NO TROUBLE AT ALL, MISTER VILLONE. WE'RE GLAD YOU MADE IT!

DUNCAN, NICE OF YOU TO COME.



THE PLEASURE IS ALL MINE, DIANE.

I TRUST YOU'VE ALL HAD A CHANCE TO LOOK AT THE PROSPECTUS AND SEE ALL THAT MY ASSOCIATES AND I HAVE TO OFFER THIS FINE ORGANIZATION.

AS YOU CAN UNDOUBTEDLY SEE, WE OFFER YOU A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR UNPRECEDENTED GROWTH WITHIN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.



YES, I BELIEVE I SPEAK FOR EVERYONE WHEN I SAY THAT WE ARE ALL EXTREMELY IMPRESSED WITH YOUR OFFER, MISTER VILLONE, AND SHARE YOUR VISION FOR OUR COMPANIES.



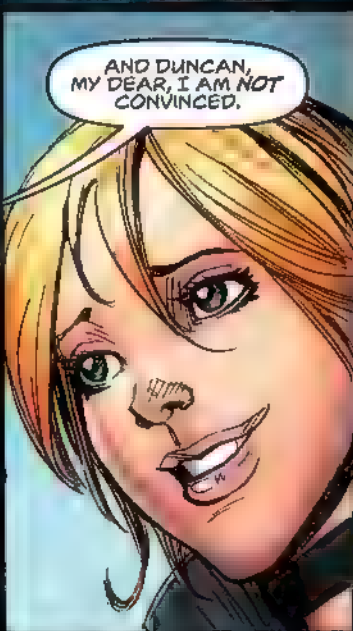
EXCELLENT!

THEN WE CAN COMMENCE WITH THE PURCHASE OF SHARES IMMEDIATELY!

UM, HATE TO RAIN ON YOUR PARADE...

...BUT AS LONG AS I HOLD MORE THAN FIFTY PERCENT OF THIS COMPANY...

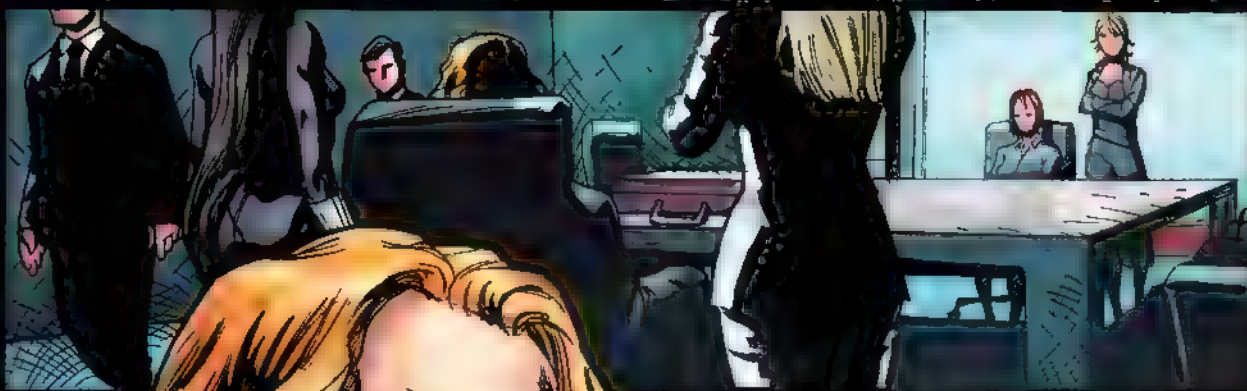
...I STILL MAKE THE DECISIONS AROUND HERE.



AND DUNCAN, MY DEAR, I AM NOT CONVINCED.



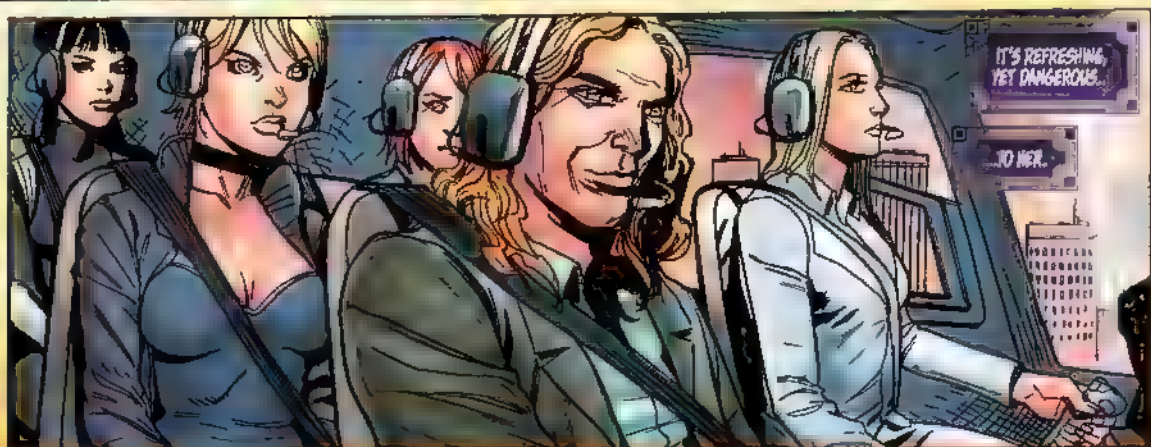
I SEE.



SO, DIANE,
DO YOU HAPPEN TO
HAVE ANY DINNER
PLANS?



FOR ALL OF HER FORMIDABILITY, THERE IS STILL AN AURA OF NAÏVE SURROUNDING ACTIA.



IT'S REFRESHING, YET DANGEROUS.

TO HER.



I LOVE TO FLY



IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO GET AROUND IN L.A.!!

LAS VEGAS

5:45 PM

HERE WE ARE!

WOW, DUNCAN, I WASN'T EXPECTING SOMETHING SO...

EXTRAVAGANT?

TACKY.

HAHAHA!!!

WELL, WAYNE AND GAVIN GAVE IT TO ME, AND I FEEL GUILTY IF I DON'T USE IT ONCE IN A WHILE.

I HAVEN'T HAD THE PLEASURE OF FORMALLY MEETING YOUR ASSOCIATES.

AH OF COURSE, HOW INCONSIDERATE OF ME. THESE ARE MY EXECUTIVE ASSISTANTS, IRIS AND JUNIPER.

AND THIS IS ACTEIA.

WE'VE MET.

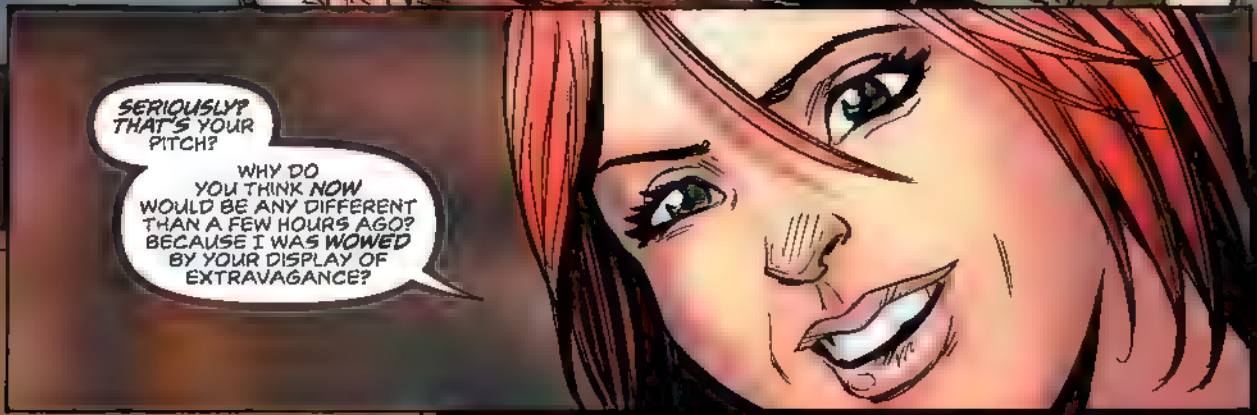
AND NOW, A TOAST TO OUR GRACIOUS GUEST!

CHEERS.



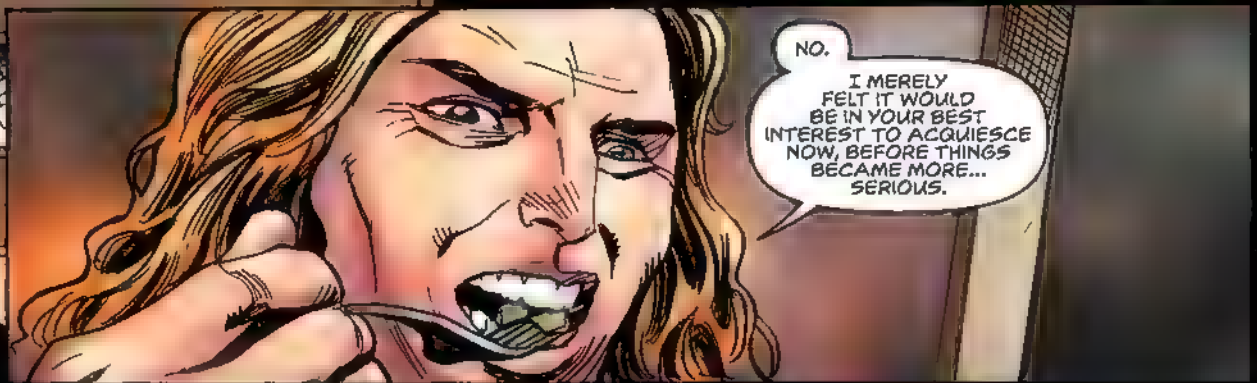
NOW, LET'S
GET DOWN TO
BUSINESS.

THIS DEAL
IS VERY IMPORTANT
TO ME, AND I SIMPLY
WON'T TAKE NO FOR
AN ANSWER!



SERIOUSLY?
THAT'S YOUR
PITCH?

WHY DO
YOU THINK NOW
WOULD BE ANY DIFFERENT
THAN A FEW HOURS AGO?
BECAUSE I WAS WOWED
BY YOUR DISPLAY OF
EXTRAVAGANCE?



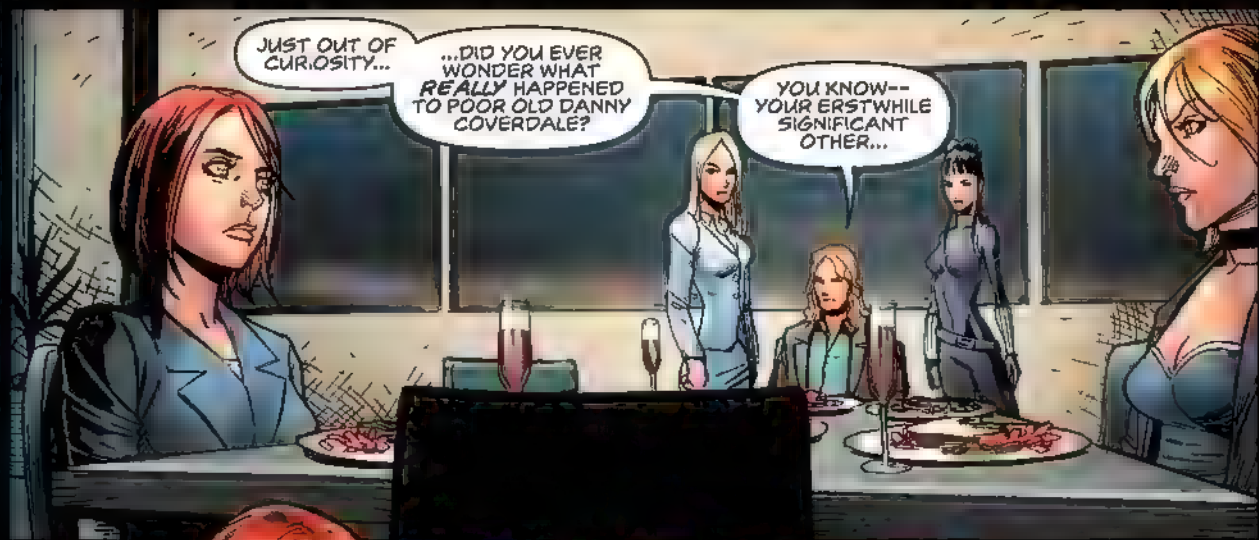
NO.

I MERELY
FELT IT WOULD
BE IN YOUR BEST
INTEREST TO ACQUIESCE
NOW, BEFORE THINGS
BECAME MORE...
SERIOUS.



IS THAT A
THREAT?





JUST OUT OF
CURIOSITY...

...DID YOU EVER
WONDER WHAT
REALLY HAPPENED
TO POOR OLD DANNY
COVERDALE?

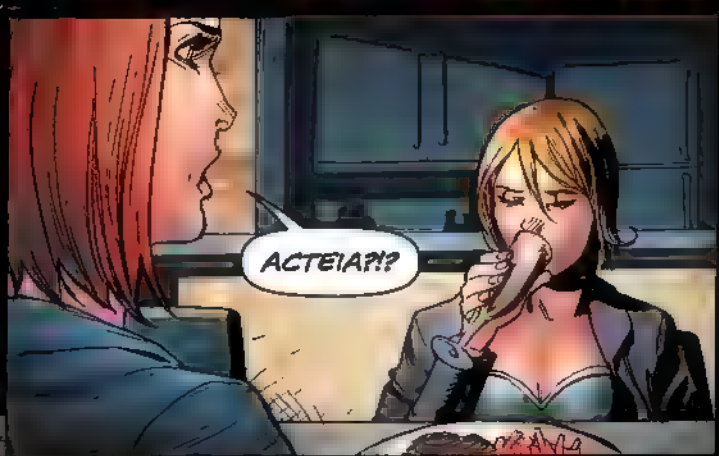
YOU KNOW--
YOUR ERSTWHILE
SIGNIFICANT
OTHER...



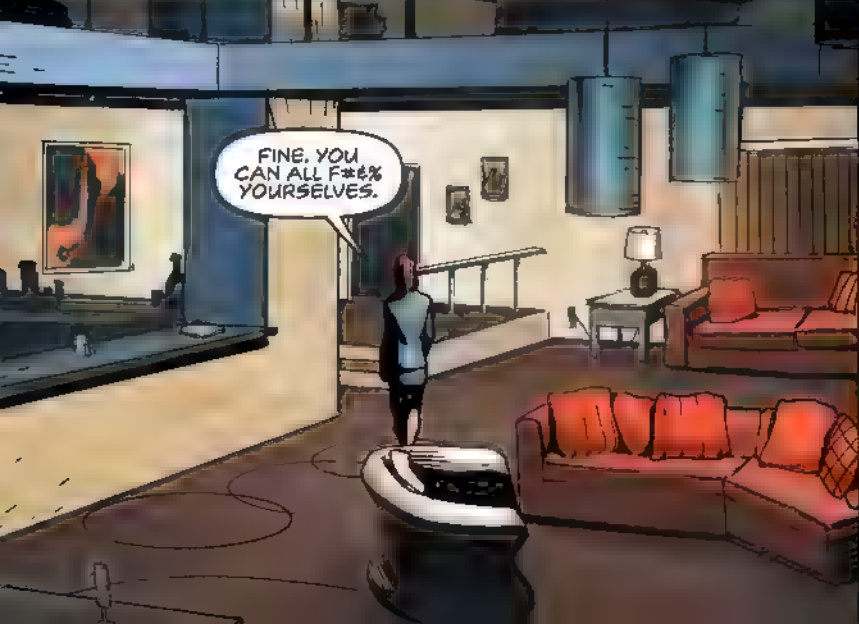
THIS
ISN'T FUNNY
ANYMORE.



ACTEIA,
IT'S TIME FOR
US TO GO.



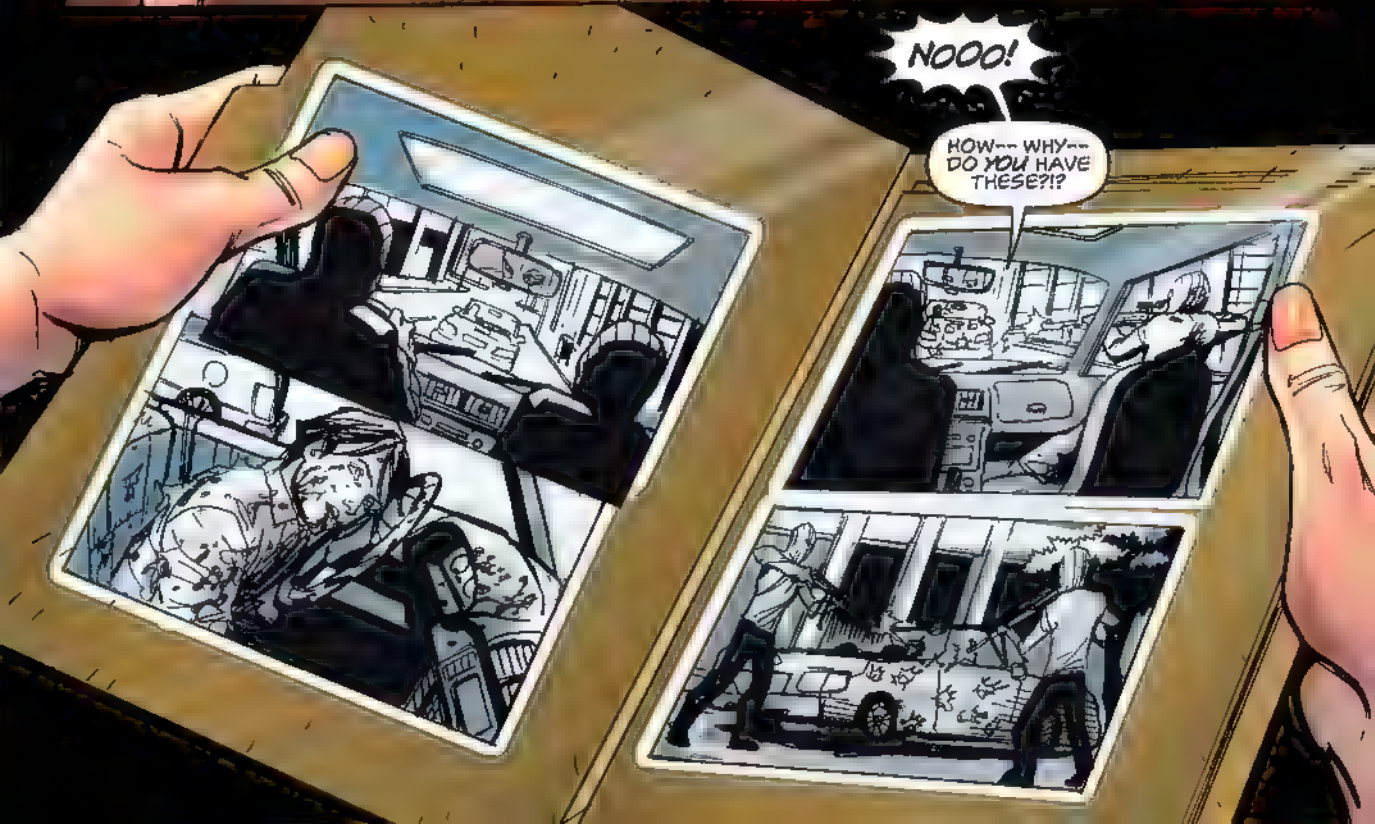
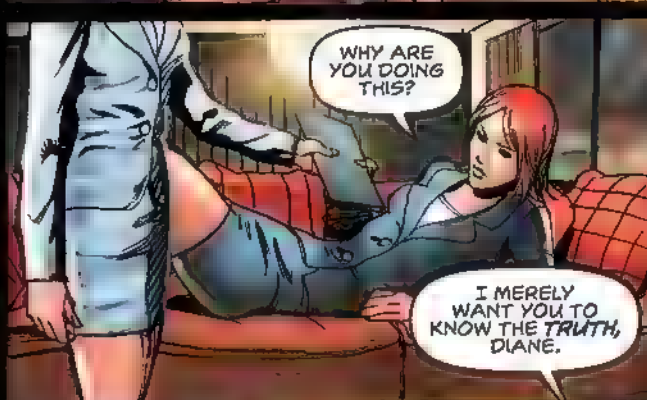
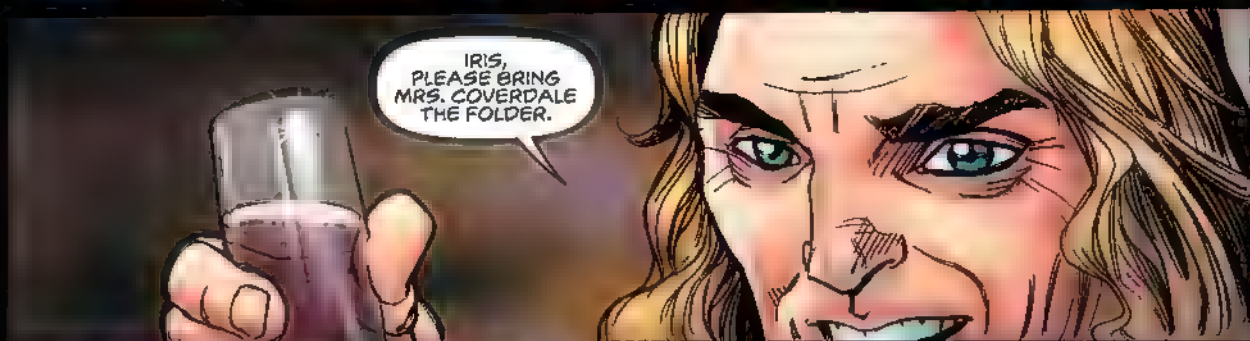
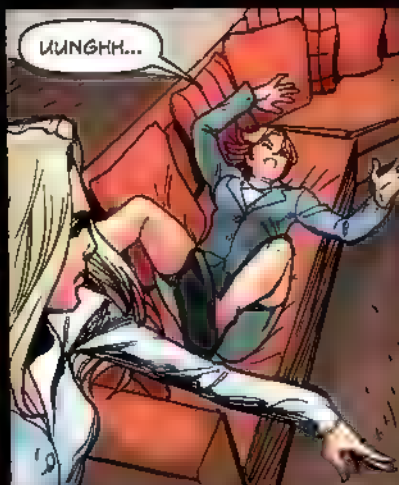
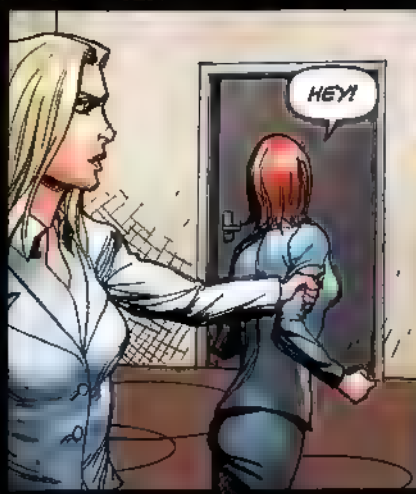
ACTEIA??

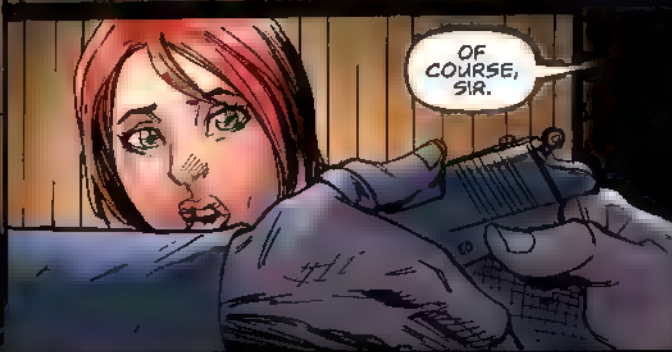
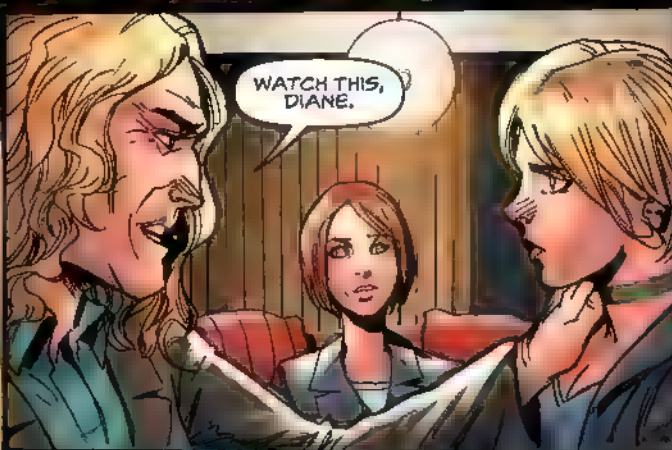
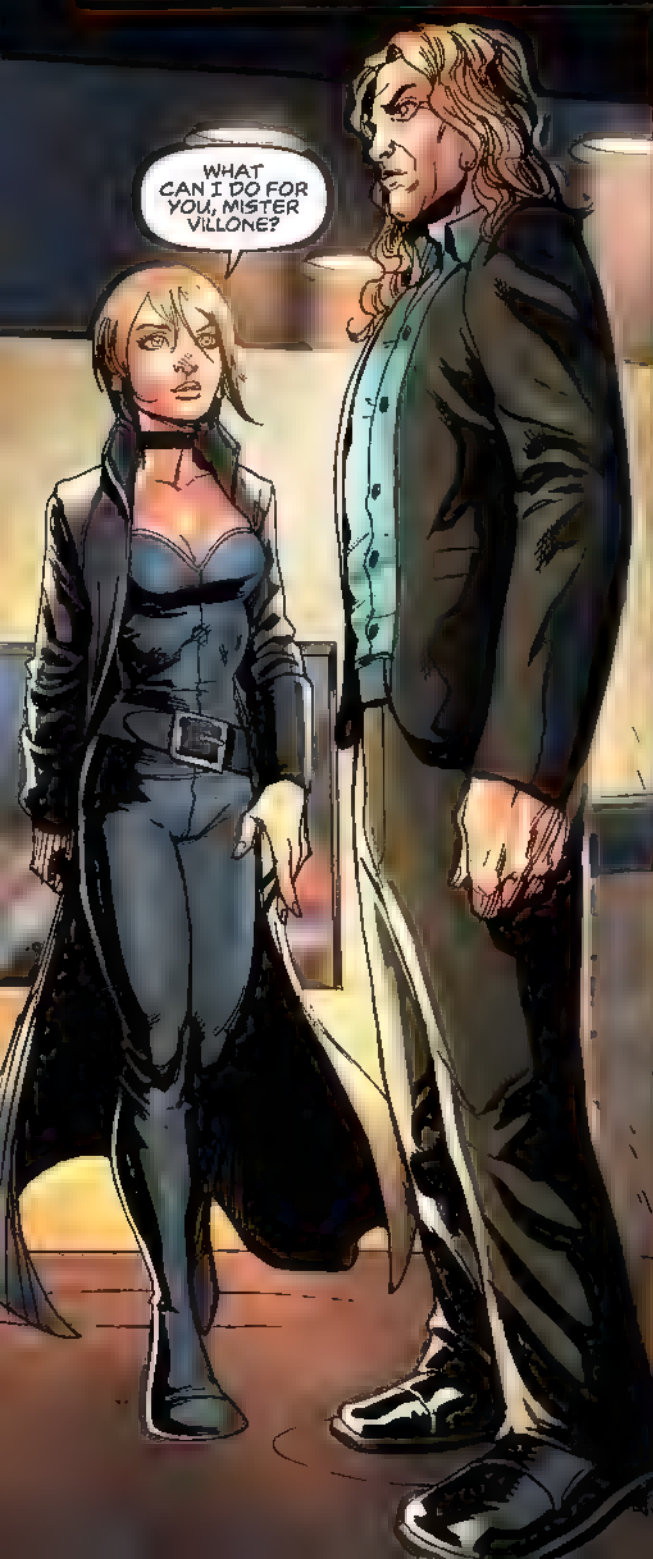
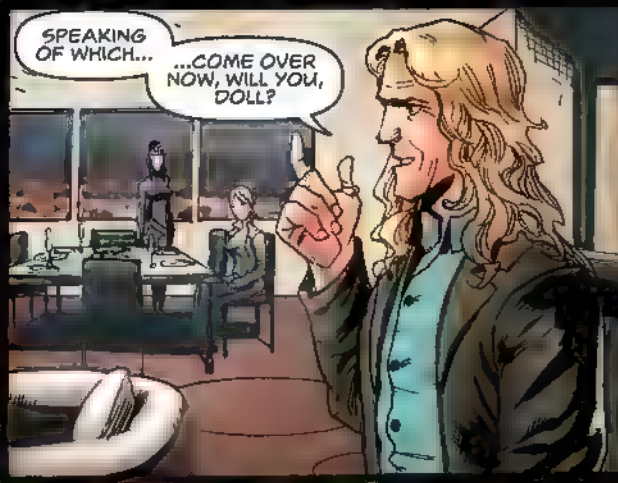


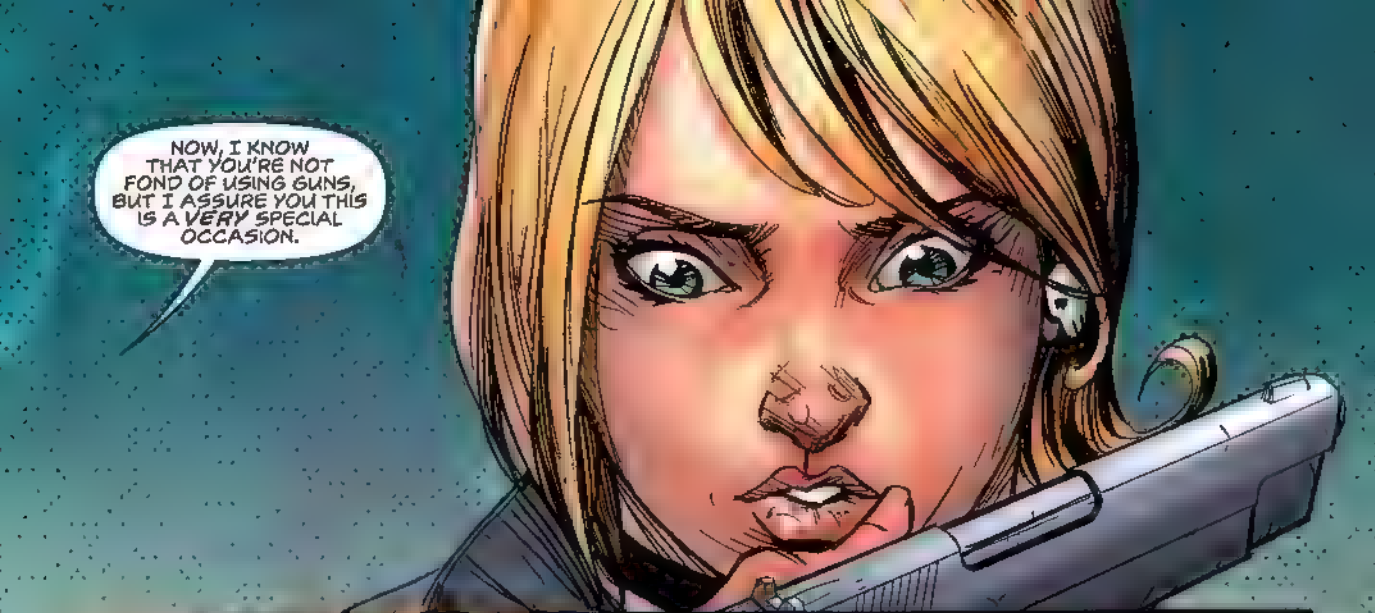
FINE. YOU
CAN ALL F**%
YOURSELVES.



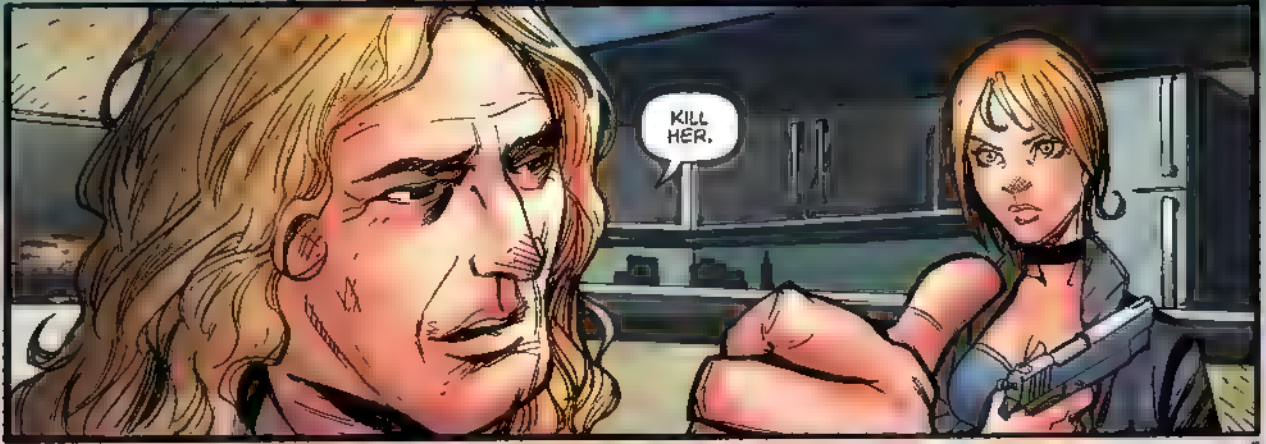
JUNIPER,
DARLING...



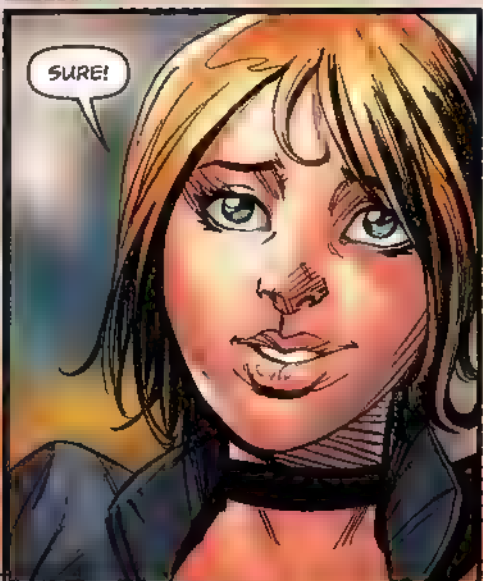




NOW, I KNOW
THAT YOU'RE NOT
FOND OF USING GUNS,
BUT I ASSURE YOU THIS
IS A VERY SPECIAL
OCCASION.



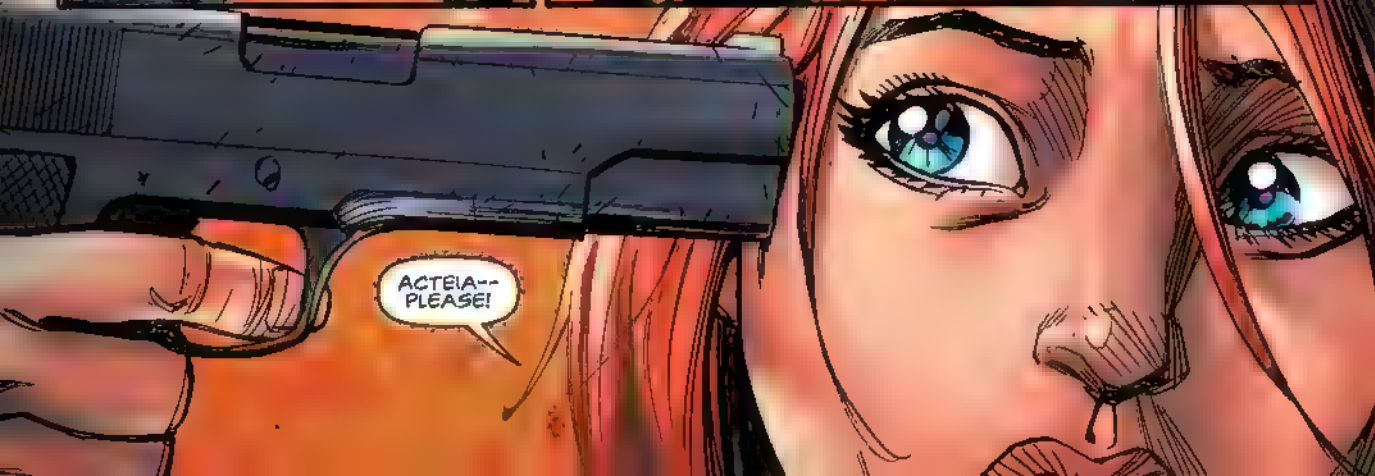
KILL
HER.



SURE!



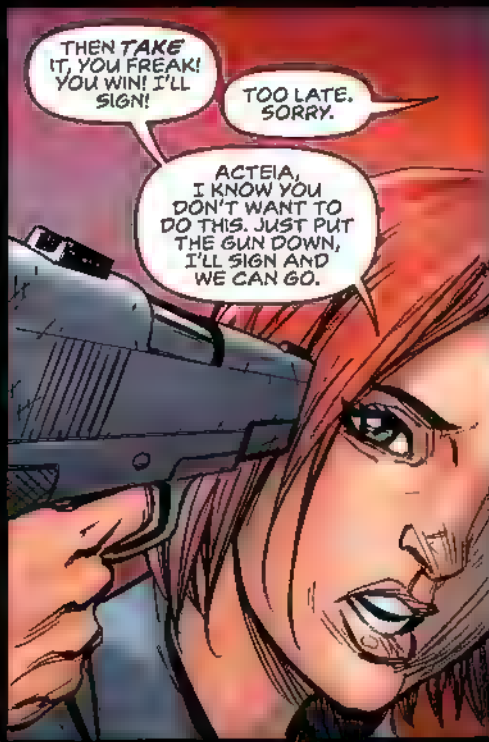
ACTEIA?



ACTEIA--
PLEASE!



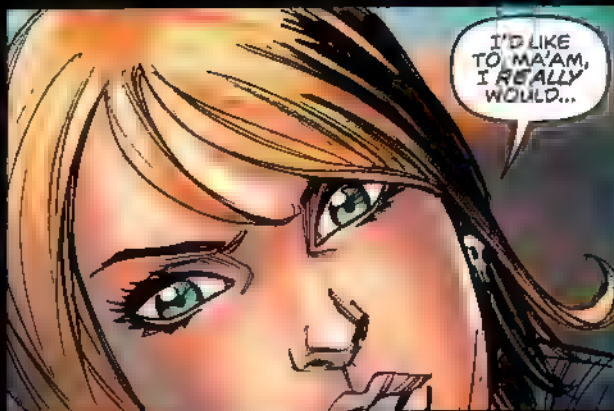
I ASSURE
YOU THIS ISN'T
PERSONAL, DIANE.
IT'S MERELY THAT YOU
HAVE SOMETHING
I WANT.



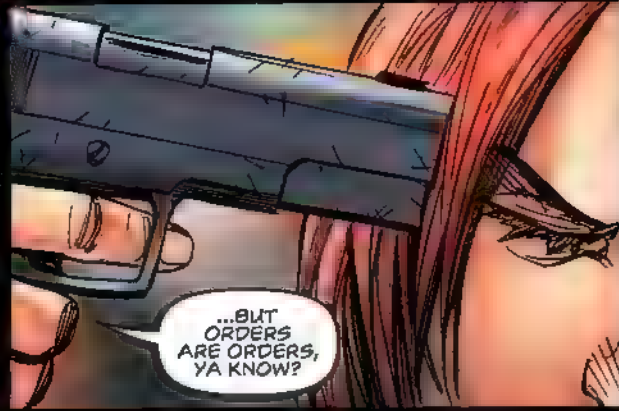
THEN TAKE
IT, YOU FREAK!
YOU WIN! I'LL
SIGN!

TOO LATE.
SORRY.

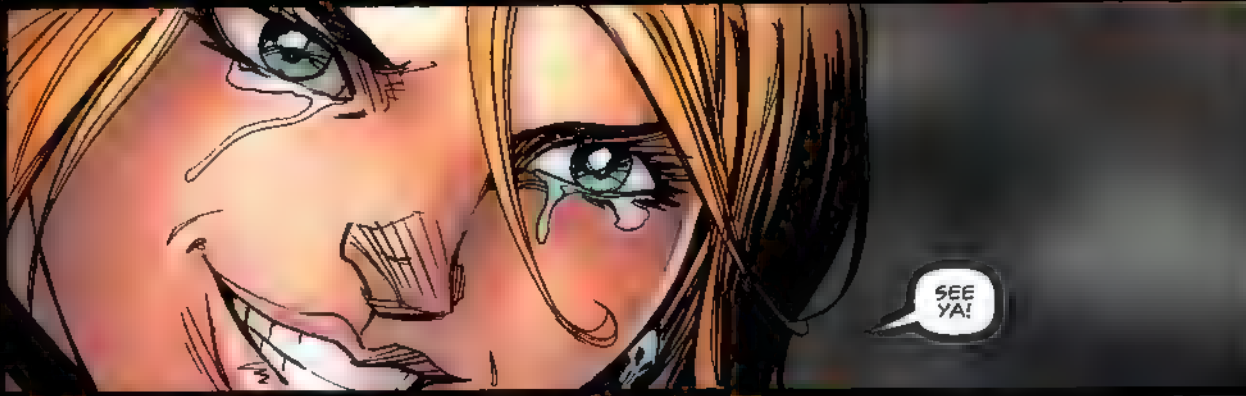
ACTEIA,
I KNOW YOU
DON'T WANT TO
DO THIS. JUST PUT
THE GUN DOWN,
I'LL SIGN AND
WE CAN GO.



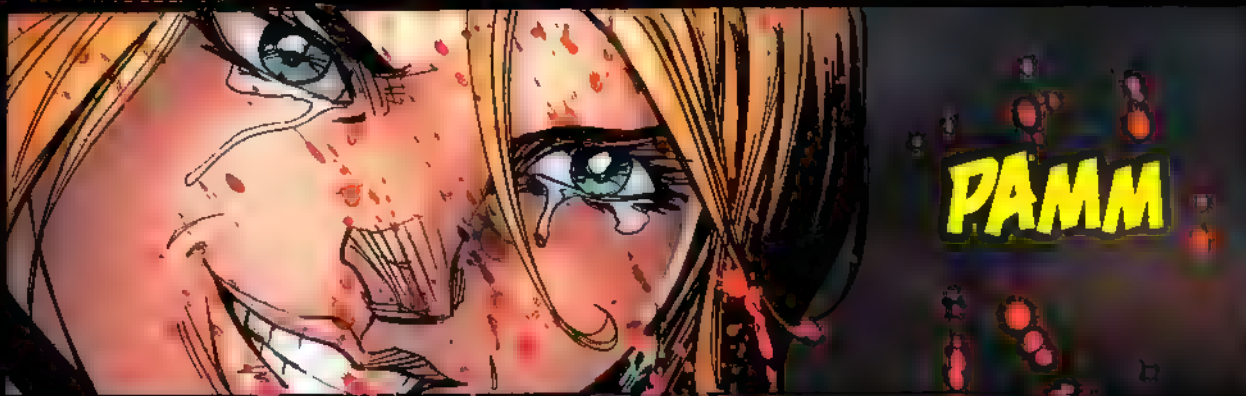
I'D LIKE
TO, MA'AM,
I REALLY
WOULD...



...BUT
ORDERS
ARE ORDERS,
YA KNOW?



SEE
YA!



PAMM

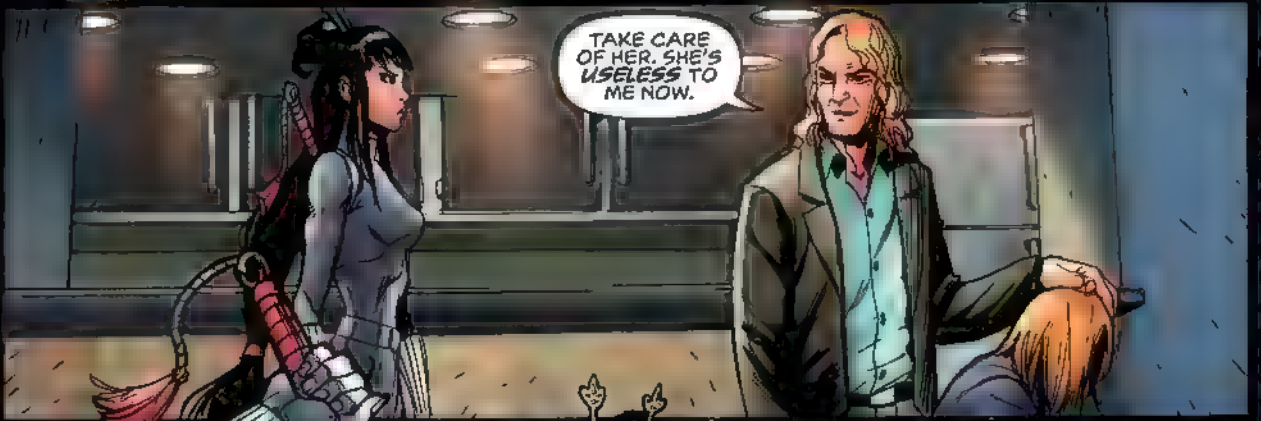




POOR GIRL.
PERHAPS I'VE
OVERESTIMATED
HER FORTITUDE.



IRIS...



TAKE CARE
OF HER. SHE'S
USELESS TO
ME NOW.



YES,
SIR.





Ikk
Kahh

TO BE CONTINUED!
EXECUTIVE
ASSISTANT: IRIS #4
THE 1011 LOST AGENDA



EW
C. 2005

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT IRIS

the MIT LIST AGENDA

ISSUE #4 of 5
VOLUME TWO

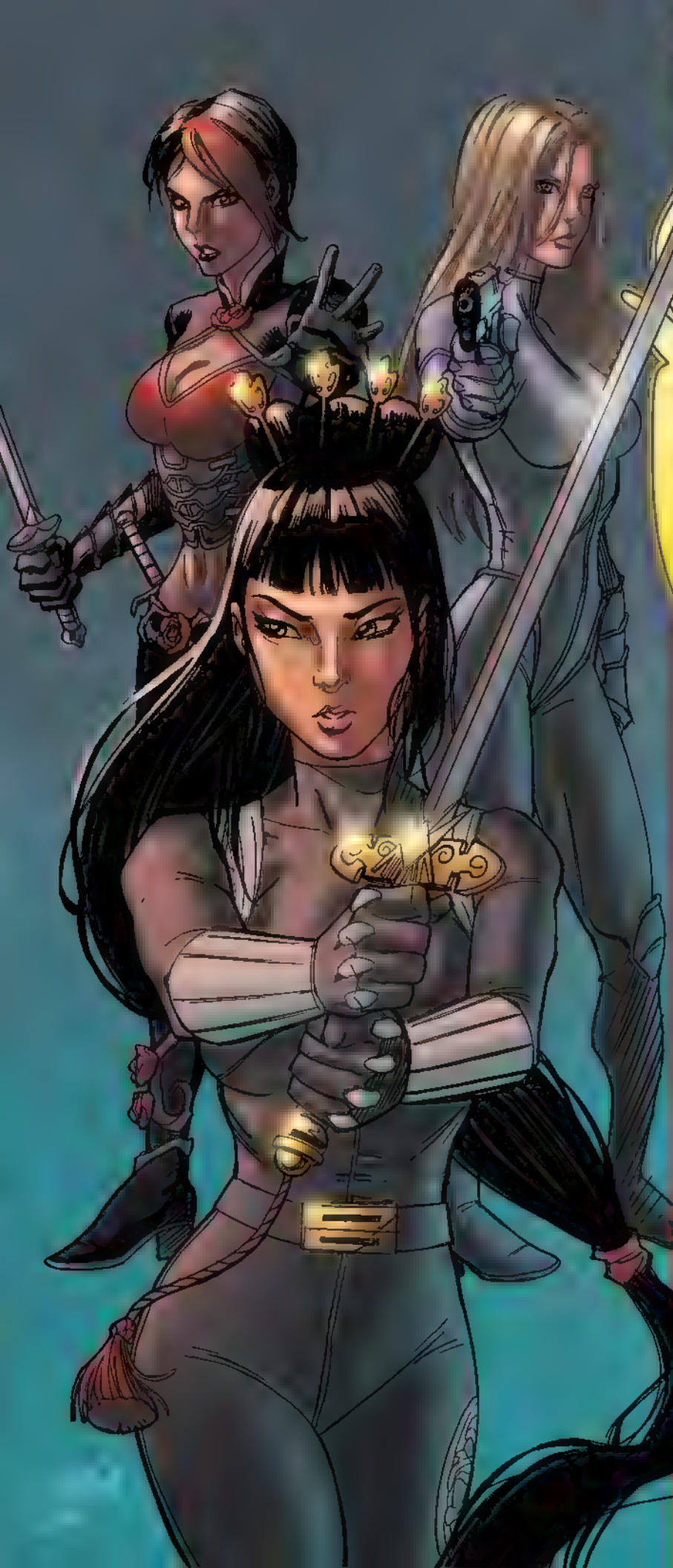
DAVID WHEEL

RYAN OLEGAWA

TEJINDER GUZAR



MIT LIST AGENDA - COVER A



EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT Kris

the HIT LIST AGENDA

ISSUE #4 of 5
VOLUME TWO

DAVID WOHL
RYAN ODAGAWA
TODORO GONZALEZ



HIT LIST AGENDA • COVER B

"WHAT A GIRL WANTS"

DAVID WOHL

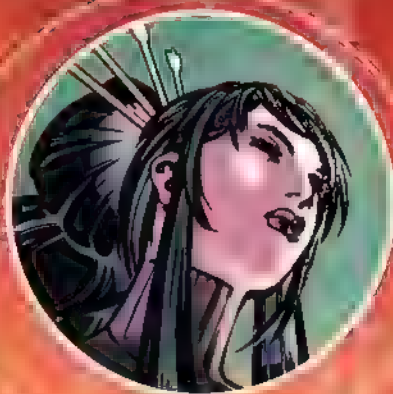
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TEODORO GONZALEZ

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PART 4 of 5



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EDUARDO FRANCISCO
PETER STEIGERWALD



B: DIRECT EDITION
RYAN ODAGAWA

created by David Wohl, Brad Foxhoven & Michael Turner

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NEED-CHANGE

HERE WAS A TIME
WHEN I BELIEVED MY
EMPLOYER COULD
DO NO WRONG.

FIRST OF ALL,
I'D JUST LIKE TO
THANK YOU ALL FOR
COMING HERE ON
SUCH SHORT
NOTICE...

ON THIS... MOST
UNFORTUNATE
OCCASION.

HE DEMANDS LOYALTY AND I SERVED
HIM DUTIFULLY, OBEYING ALL COMMANDS,
NO MATTER HOW DISTASTEFUL.

AS YOU ARE
DOUBTLESSLY
AWARE, THE WORLD
LOST AN AMAZINGLY
GIFTED WOMAN
LAST NIGHT.

SO LET US TAKE
A MOMENT TO MOURN
THE TRAGIC DEATH OF
DIANE COVERDALE.

I DID THIS BECAUSE IT WAS MY
RESPONSIBILITY... MY DUTY.

AUTHORITIES
FOUND HER, AND HER
LOVELY ASSISTANT
ACTEIA, BRUTALLY
MURDERED IN HER
MALIBU HOME.

AND I VOW TO
ALL OF YOU WHO CAN
HEAR MY VOICE, THAT
THESE MURDERS, AND
THAT OF HER HUSBAND,
WILL NOT GO
UNAVENGED.

I WILL WORK
TIRELESSLY WITH
THE AUTHORITIES TO
FIND THE INDIVIDUALS
RESPONSIBLE AND THEY
WILL BE BROUGHT
TO JUSTICE!

I BELIEVED I WOULD SERVE MY FIRST
EMPLOYER, MISTER CHUNG, UNTIL DEATH.

AND NOW,
IN HONOR OF MRS.
COVERDALE'S MEMORY,
I'M PROUD TO ANNOUNCE
THAT THE ESTEEMED BOARD
OF DIRECTORS HAS AGREED
TO ALLOW THE ACQUISITION
OF THEIR WONDERFUL
COMPANY...

...JUST
AS DIANE
WOULD'VE
WANTED.

I DID HIS DEATH, AT MY
HANDS— AFTER HIS REQUESTS
BECAME TOO MUCH FOR EVEN
MY QUESTIONABLE ETHICS.

MY NEW EMPLOYER, MISTER VILLONE, EXPECTS LOYALTY AND OBEDIENCE AS WELL, BUT HE FELT THE NEED TO ENFORCE IT ELECTRONICALLY.

NOW, LET'S GET TO WORK!

LATELY, THOUGH, I'VE FOUND THAT THE CHIP HE HAD SURGICALLY IMPLANTED AT THE TOP OF MY SPINE ISN'T QUITE SO EFFECTIVE ANYMORE.

I FIND I'VE BEEN HAVING DOUBTS.

AND I THINK HE KNOWS IT.

KLIK

HMM.

IRIS...
IRIS...

...I'D HAD SUCH HOPE FOR YOU.

JUNIPER, MY DEAR.

SIR?

THERE'S BEEN A SLIGHT CHANGE IN PLANS REGARDING OUR DEPARTURE. I'LL FILL YOU IN ON THE WAY TO THE CLUB.

VERY WELL, SIR.

11:15 PM

WELL SAM,
LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE
ABOUT TO BE A VERY
WEALTHY MAN...

I HOPE I HAVE THE
OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK TO
MISTER VILLONE AFTER THIS
ASSIGNMENT... ALONE

YOU'VE BEEN
A VALUABLE ALLY
AND FOR THAT I
THANK YOU.

OH, IT IS I
WHO SHOULD
BE THANKING
YOU, MISTER
VILLONE.

CLINK

I NEED TO TALK ABOUT THE CASE
PERHAPS IT'S MALFUNCTIONING
AFFECTING MY EMOTIONS.

I MUST
SAY, SUCCESS
AGREES WITH
YOU.

I'M SURE HE'LL
UNDERSTAND.

SAHEM
YOU'RE TOO
KIND.

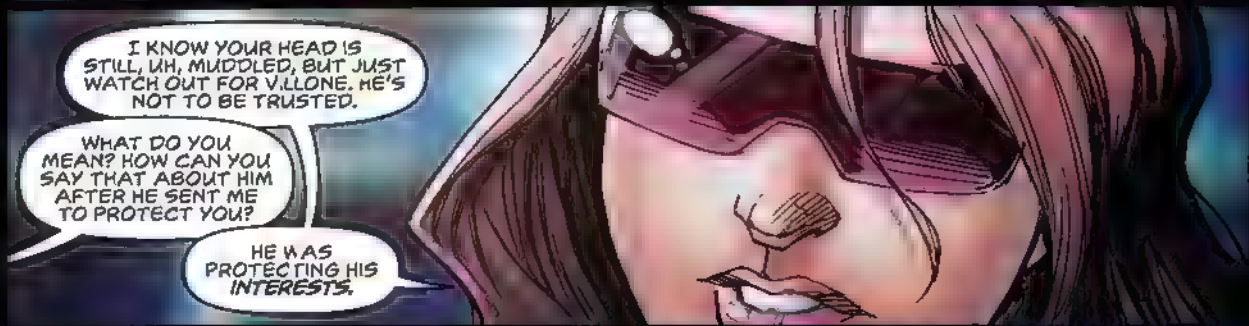
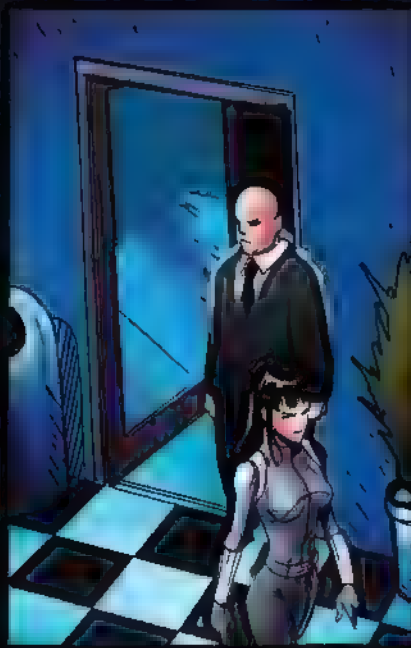
IS THAT--?

ORLANDO??

WILL YOU EXCUSE
ME A MOMENT? I...
NEED TO CHECK
SOMETHING OUT.

NEED ME
TO COME
ALONG?

NO, I'LL BE
FINE. STAY
WITH HIM.



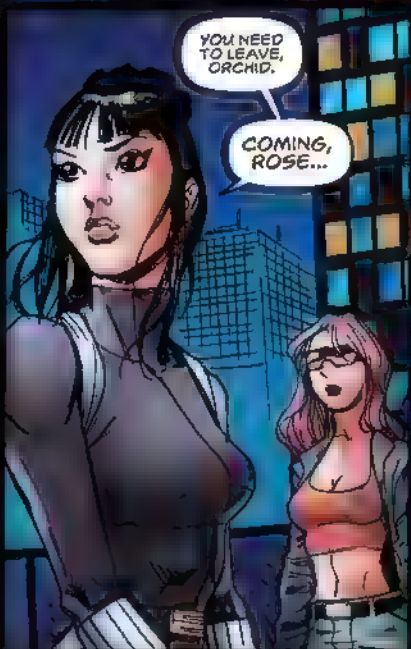
I KNOW YOUR HEAD IS STILL, UH, MUDDLED, BUT JUST WATCH OUT FOR V.LONE. HE'S NOT TO BE TRUSTED.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN? HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT ABOUT HIM AFTER HE SENT ME TO PROTECT YOU?

HE WAS PROTECTING HIS INTERESTS.

ORCHID, I DON'T KNOW IF YOU HAVE SOME KIND OF AGENDA AGAINST HIM, BUT I'M NOT--

IRIS?



YOU NEED TO LEAVE, ORCHID.

COMING, ROSE...



WHAT'RE YOU DOING OUT THERE? WE'RE GOING.



JUST GETTING ONE LAST GLIMPSE OF THE CITY BEFORE WE GO HOME...

RIGHT.

SANTA MONICA
AIRPORT.
2:25 A.M.

WE SPEND THE THIRTY
MINUTE DRIVE IN SILENCE.
THERE IS CLEARLY TENSION
BETWEEN US. ALL OF US.

NOW I WONDER IF EVEN MY
RENDEZVOUS WITH ORCHID WAS A
MISTAKE. THE LAST THING I WANT IS
TO AROUSE MORE SUSPICION.

I DON'T EVEN
UNDERSTAND HOW
SHE KNEW WHERE
TO FIND ME!

I WILL EXPLAIN EVERYTHING TO MISTER
VILLONE ON THE FLIGHT HOME. IT'S ALL
JUST A MISUNDERSTANDING, I'M SURE.

WELL, LADIES,
I'M AFRAID IT'S
TIME FOR ME TO
BID ADIEU.

MISTER
VILLONE, CAN
I HAVE A--

BE A GOOD
GIRL AND FOLLOW
THEIR ORDERS.

I--OF
COURSE,
SIR.

IRIS?

ARE YOU
COMING?

YOU THREE HAVE
SOME UNFINISHED
BUSINESS TO TAKE
CARE OF. JUNIPER
AND ROSE WILL FILL
YOU IN ON THE
DETAILS, IRIS.



SOMEWHERE OVER
THE PACIFIC OCEAN.
4:10 A.M.

IN THE HOURS THAT FOLLOW,
MY CERTAINTY GROWS THAT
THEY INTEND FOR THIS TO
BE MY FINAL MISSION.



AND ALL I CAN DO
NOW IS WONDER HOW
IT CAME TO THIS.



I WANT TO ASK ROSE
WHY? WHY ME? WHY NOW?
I WONDER IF SHE EVEN
KNOWS, HERSELF.



...OR IF SHE'S JUST
FOLLOWING ORDERS,
LIKE I DID.



DO YOU HAVE
SOMETHING TO
ASK ME, IRIS?



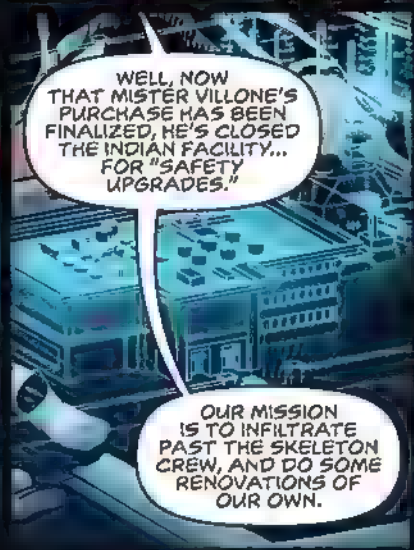
I MEAN, WE'VE
BEEN FLYING FOR
HOURS, AND YOU
STILL HAVEN'T
ASKED ME WHAT
OUR MISSION IS!



OH-- YES--
COULD YOU TELL
ME ABOUT IT?

YOU
REMEMBER
VELCHEM,
RIGHT?

YES.



WELL, NOW
THAT MISTER VILLONE'S
PURCHASE HAS BEEN
FINALIZED, HE'S CLOSED
THE INDIAN FACILITY...
FOR "SAFETY
UPGRADES."

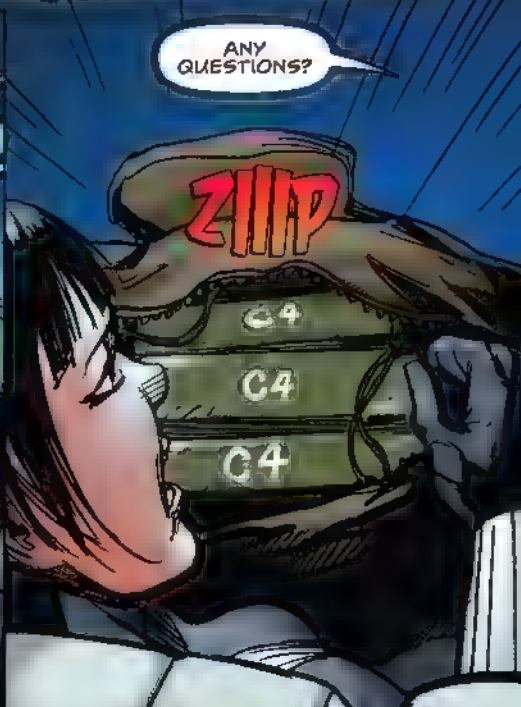
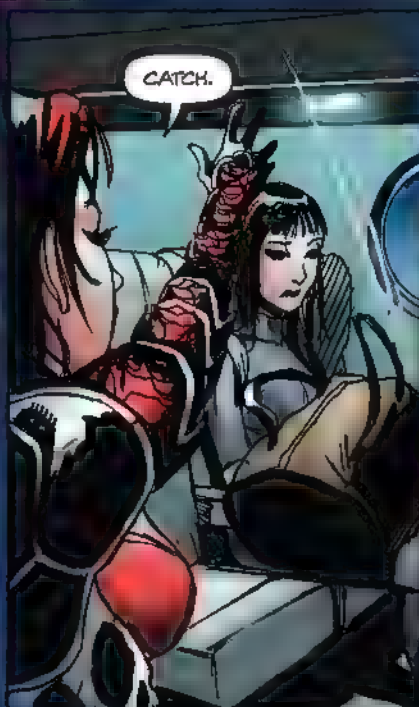
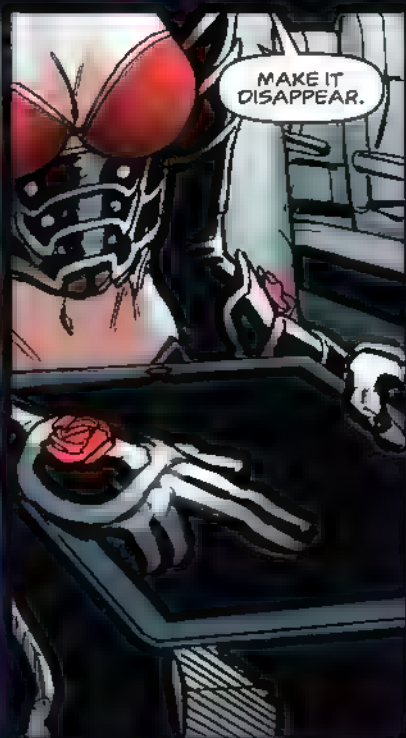
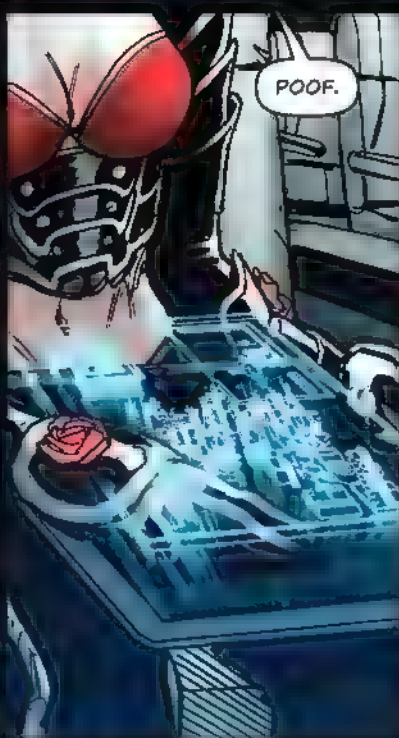


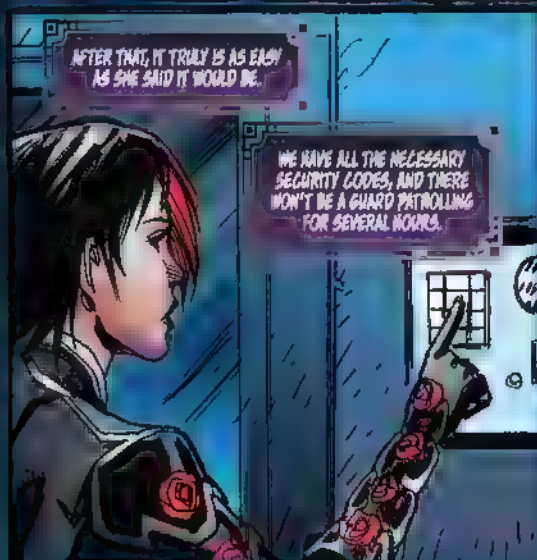
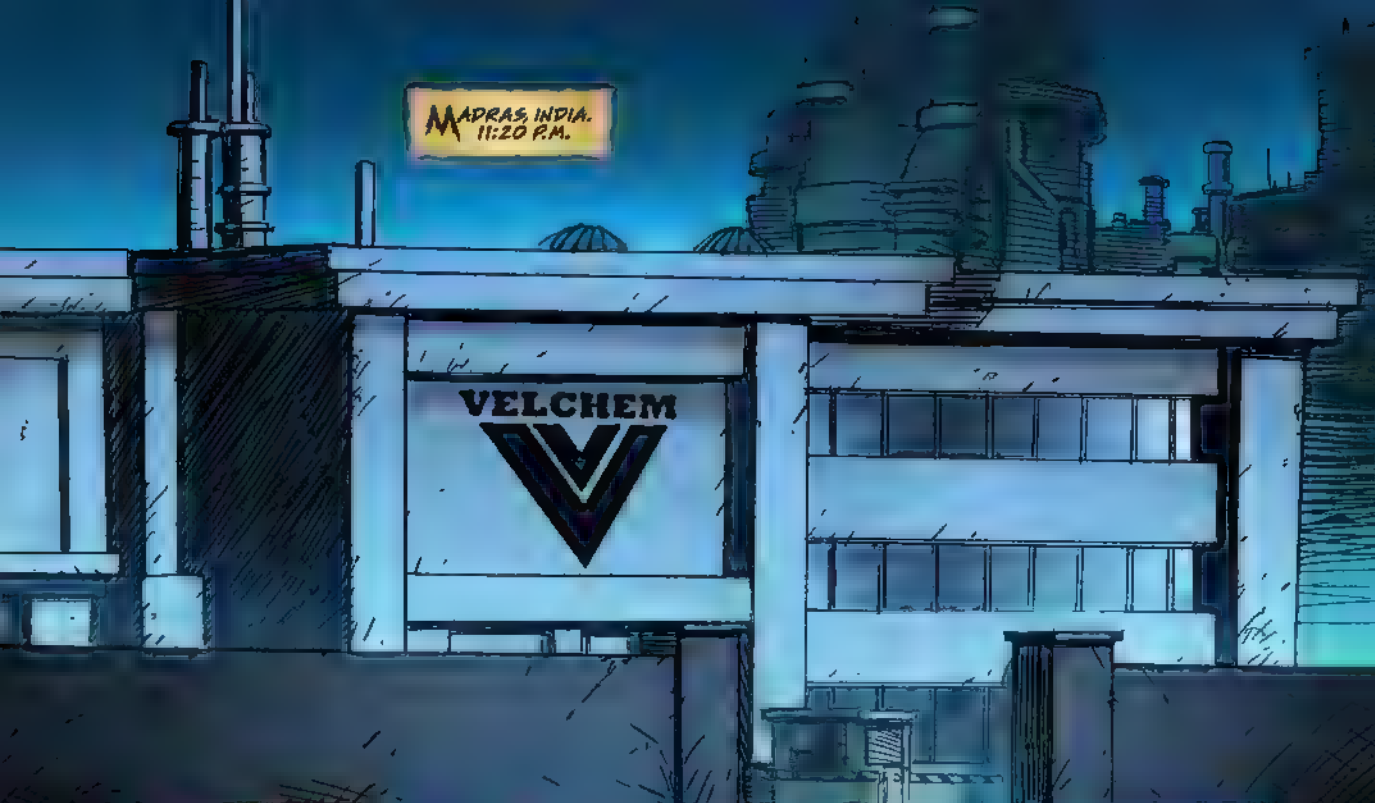
HMM, I REMEMBER THAT
ONE. THERE'S A TWENTY-
FOUR HOUR GUARD-POST
THERE, SECURITY CREWS
ON CONSTANT PATROL,
AND INFRARED CAMERAS
EVERYWHERE.

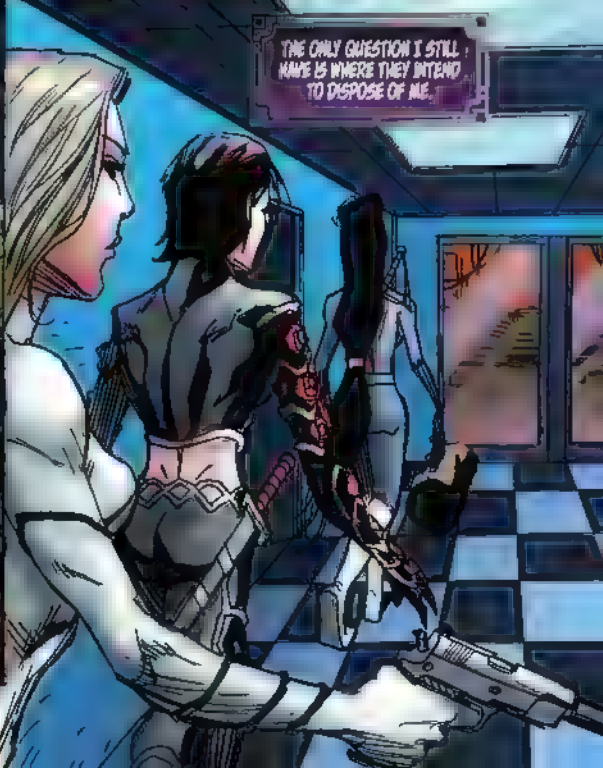
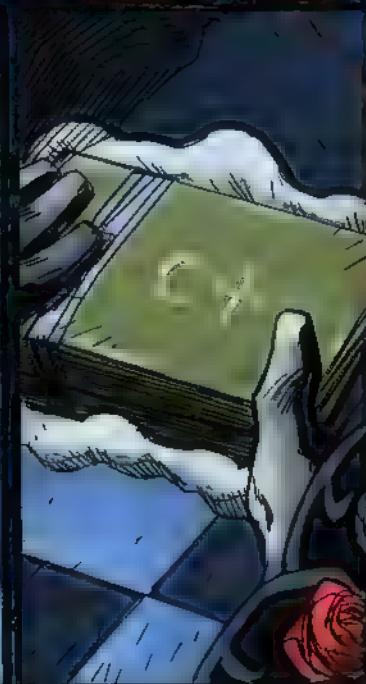
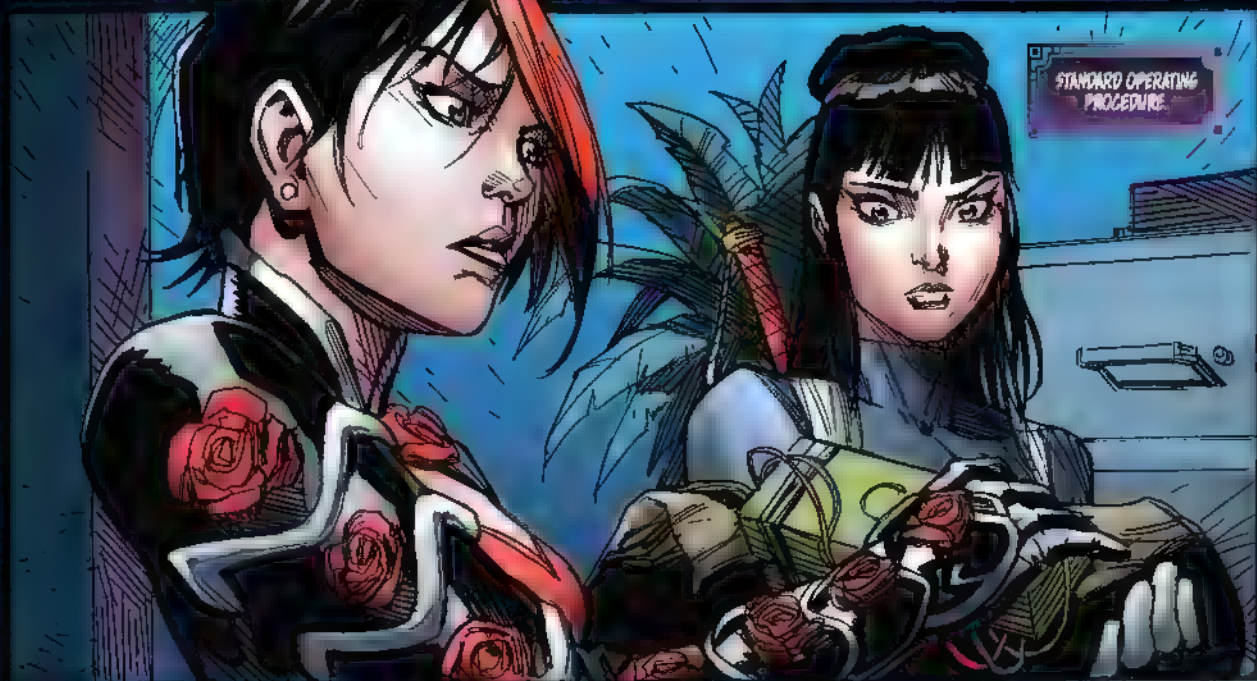
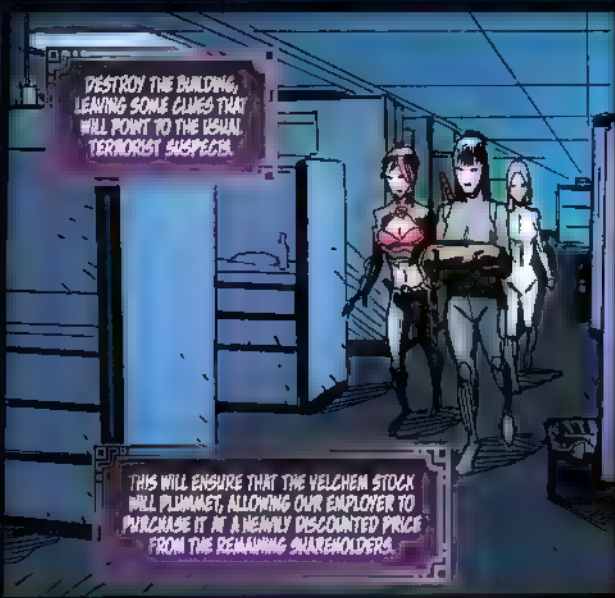
NOT ANYMORE.
MOST OF THE CREW
HAS BEEN PLACED
ON LEAVE, AND THE
SECURITY MONITORS
ARE DISABLED.

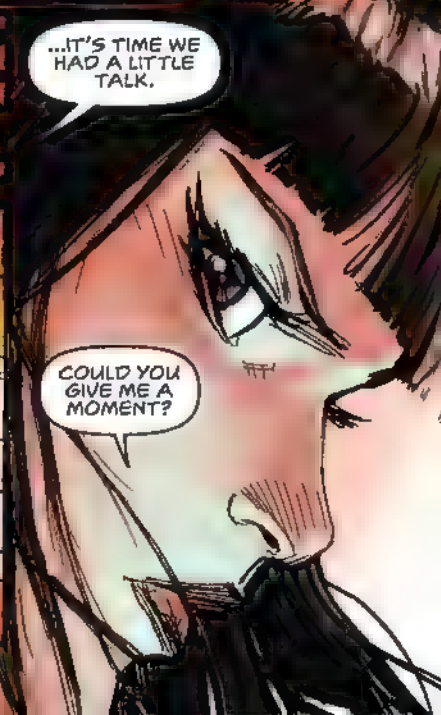
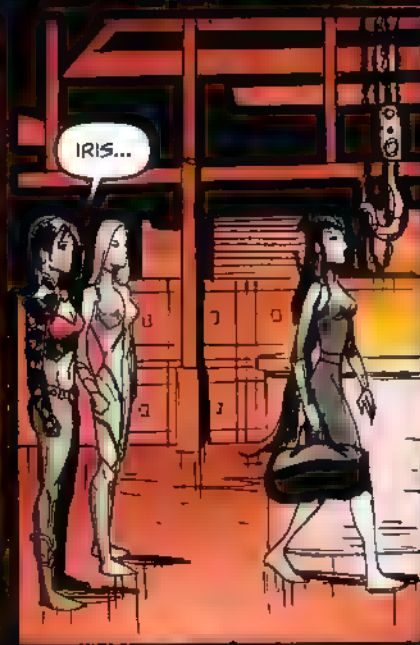
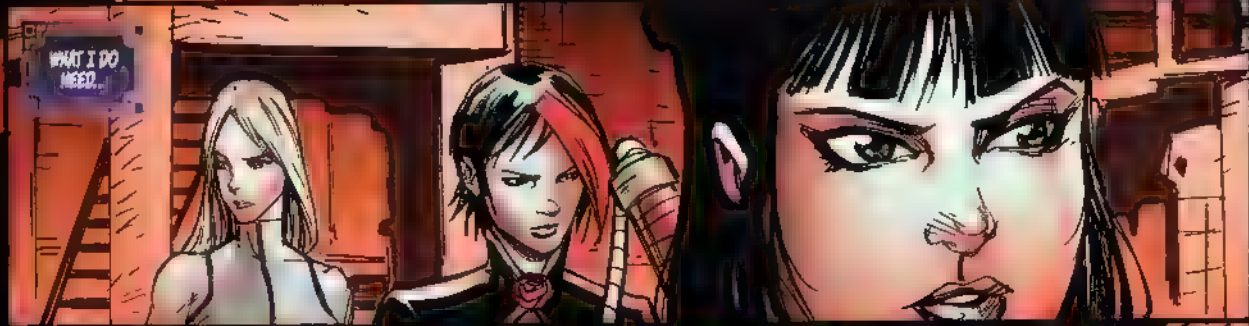
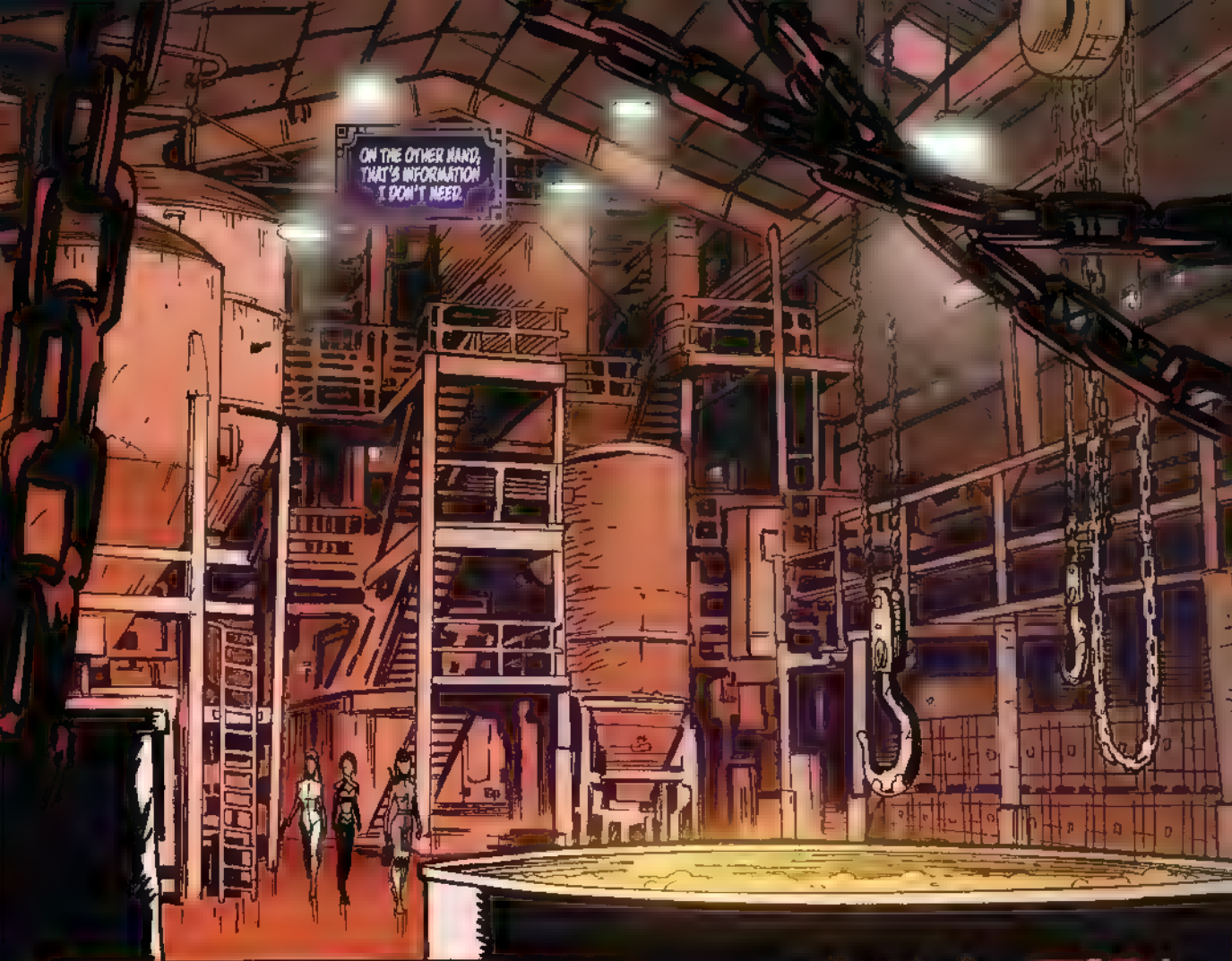
SHOULD
BE A CAKE
WALK.

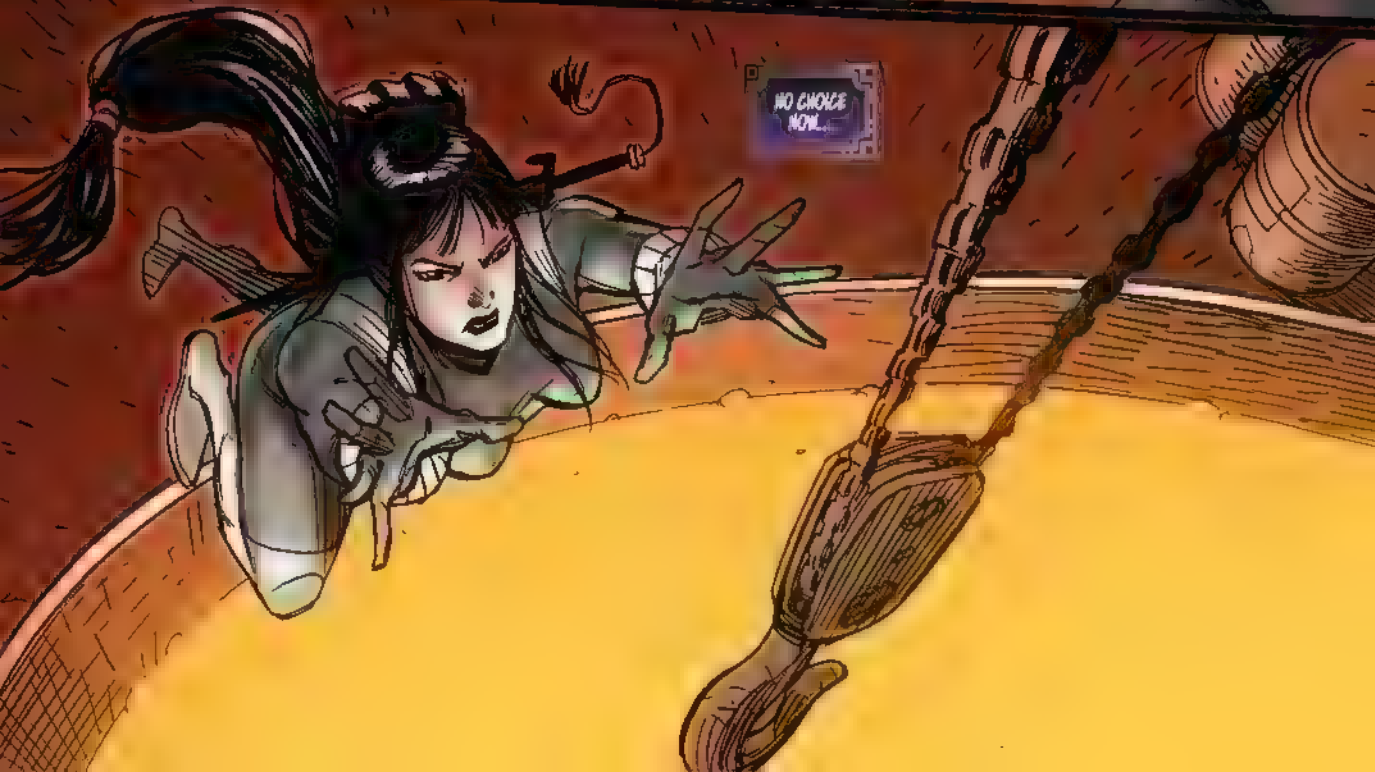
OUR MISSION
IS TO INFILTRATE
PAST THE SKELETON
CREW, AND DO SOME
RENOVATIONS OF
OUR OWN.













COME ON, IRIS. THIS IS JUST SILLY.

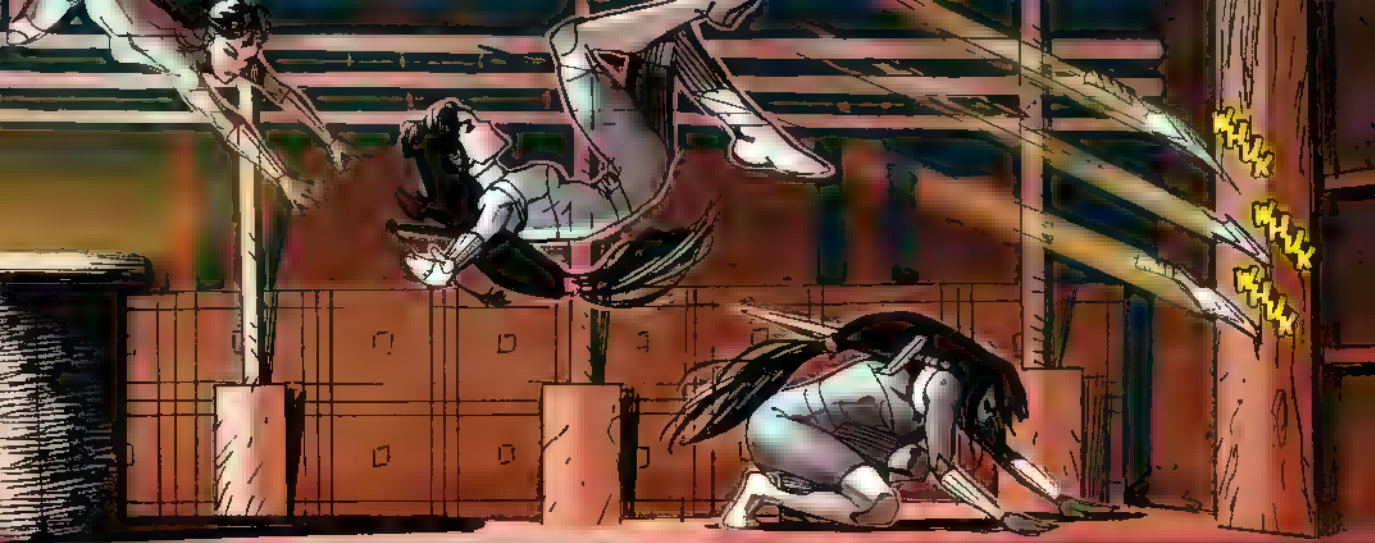
FRANKLY I EXPECTED YOU, OF ALL PEOPLE, TO UNDERSTAND.

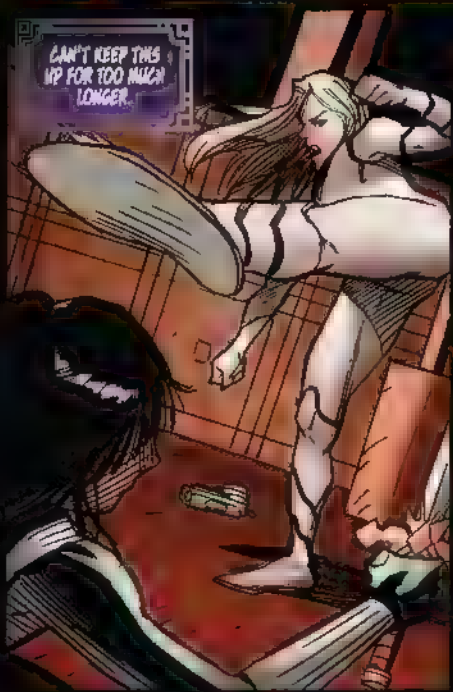
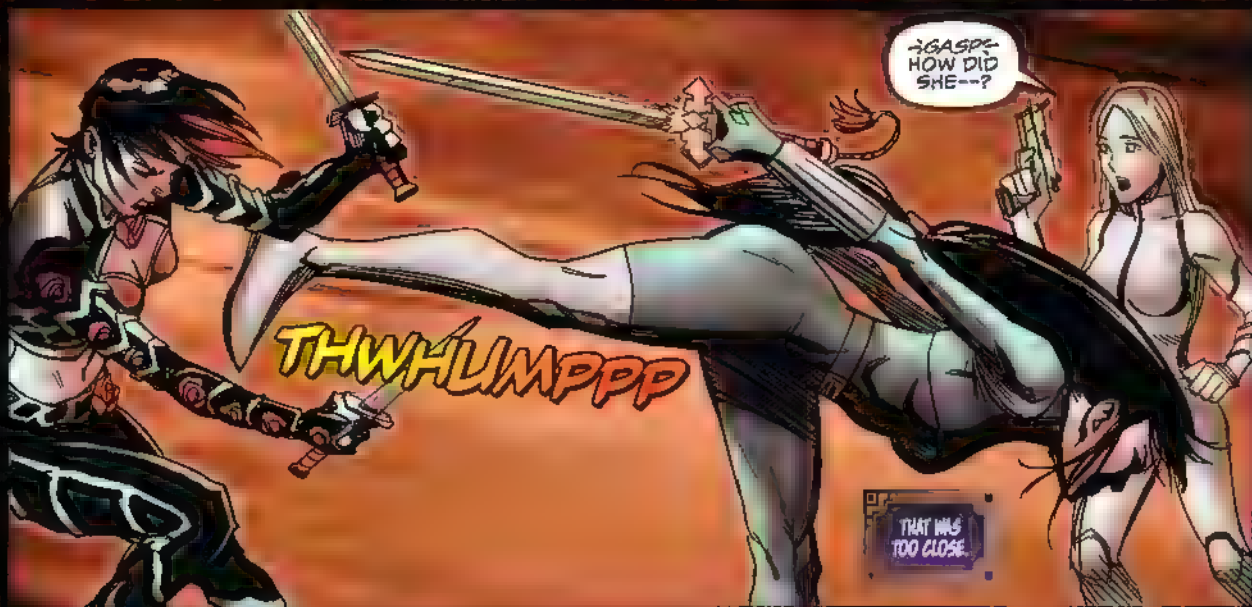
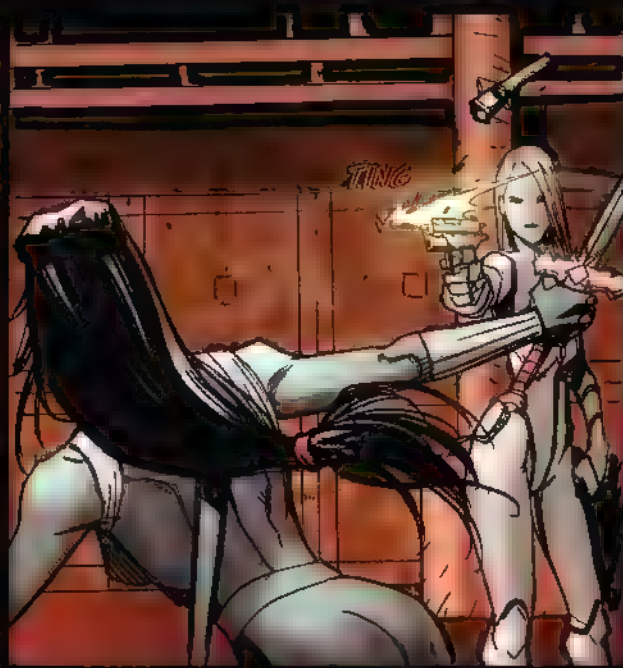


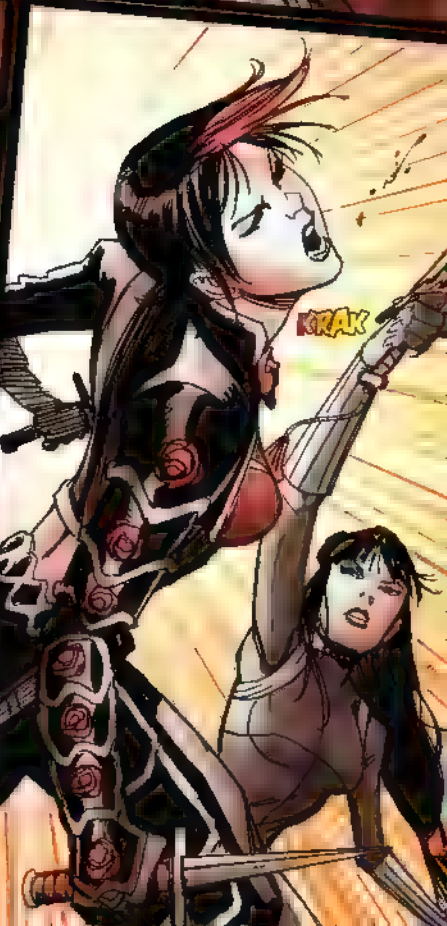
THIPSHH

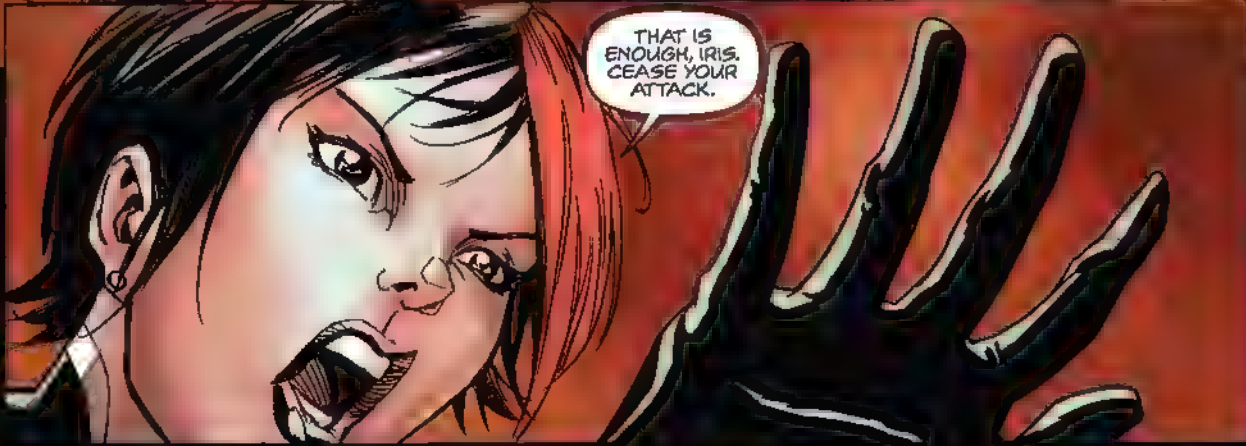
FWISHHHH

THIPSHH









ALL RIGHT.
YOU CAN PUT
YOUR SWORD
DOWN NOW,
IRIS.

YOU WON'T
BE NEEDING IT
ANYMORE.



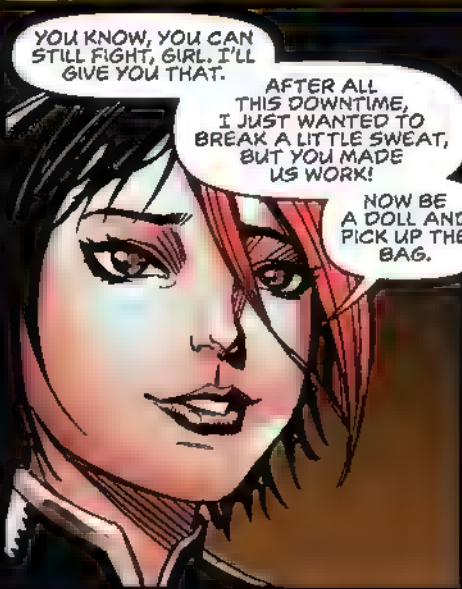
YOU KNOW, YOU CAN
STILL FIGHT, GIRL. I'LL
GIVE YOU THAT.

AFTER ALL
THIS DOWNTIME,
I JUST WANTED TO
BREAK A LITTLE SWEAT,
BUT YOU MADE
US WORK!

NOW BE
A DOLL AND
PICK UP THE
BAG.

WE'RE A BIT
SHORT ON TIME,
SO WE NEED TO
HURRY.

OF
COURSE,
ROSE.



12:05 A.M.

HERE WE ARE, IRIS.

THAT GENERATOR IS CONNECTED TO THE MAIN PRODUCTION LINES. IT'S THE FINAL PIECE IN BRINGING THIS BUILDING DOWN.

YOU HAVE THE HONOR OF SETTING THE FINAL EXPLOSIVE.

THANK YOU, ROSE.

OH YEAH, IT'S MISSING THE ADHESIVE.

GUESS YOU'LL HAVE TO HOLD IT.

OH, ALL RIGHT.

TO BE HONEST,
I'VE BEEN LOOKING
FORWARD TO THIS
FOR A WHILE NOW,
IRIS.

PRETTY MUCH
FROM THE MOMENT
YOU DISHONORED ME IN
FRONT OF MY EMPLOYER
AND LEFT ME TO DIE ON
THAT GODFORSAKEN
SHIP.*

BUT GUESS
WHAT? I
ESCAPED.

*SEE EXECUTIVE
ASSISTANT: IRIS
VOLUME ONE
FOR DETAILS.

DUNCAN
FOUND ME IN
SPAIN. HE NURSED
ME BACK TO HEALTH--
GAVE ME PURPOSE
AGAIN.

HE TOLD
ME ABOUT THE
TEAM HE PLANNED
TO ASSEMBLE AND
ASKED IF I KNEW OF
ANY OTHERS. I
RECOMMENDED
YOU.

SEEING HOW YOU
MINDLESSLY FOLLOWED
THAT PIG, CHING, I KNEW
YOU'D BE THE PERFECT
CANDIDATE. SO LOYAL,
SO... MALLEABLE-- EVEN
WITHOUT THE CHIP.

SIT.

THAT'S WHY
YOU SURPRISED ME
WHEN YOU TRIED
TO ESCAPE.

YOU HAD A
LITTLE FIGHT LEFT
IN YOU AFTER ALL--
A BIT TOO MUCH
OF A CONSCIENCE
FOR OUR TASTE,
THOUGH.

LUCKILY
DUNCAN GAVE
ME CONTROL OVER
YOU, OR WHO KNOWS
WHAT DAMAGE
YOU COULD'VE
CAUSED.

SOUNDS LIKE
TIME IS RUNNING
OUT, SO NOW WE
MUST BID YOU
ADIEU.

~MWA~

Beep Beep Beep

Beep Beep Beep

Beep Beep Beep

Beep Beep Beep

Beep Beep Beep

5:20



TO BE CONCLUDED!
REASON
CHAPTER 2 PART 1
CULTURE BY LAMENGA



EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT IRIS

the HIT LIST AGENDA

ISSUE #5 of 5
VOLUME TWO

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TEODORO GONZALEZ

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KLEIN, G. and B. G. B. 1988

Now.

I'VE HEARD THAT IN THE END,
ONE'S LIFE PASSES BEFORE
THEIR EYES, FOLLOWED BY
SOME KIND OF WHITE LIGHT.

I CAN'T SPEAK TO ANY OF THAT, BUT I
WILL SAY, FROM WHAT I CAN TELL, IT'S NOT
JUST BRIGHT, BUT LOUD, AS WELL.

KERRAKA—

BOOOON

BUT SOMETIMES,
ALL ISN'T AS IT SEEMS.

10 MINUTES AGO.

VELCHEM
V

IT HAD BEEN LESS THAN TWENTY-
FOUR HOURS SINCE ORCINO PAID A
VISIT TO ME WHILE I WAS GUARDING
MISTER VILLONE AT A RESTAURANT
IN LOS ANGELES.

ONE
GUARD.

ARMED?

SHE TOLD ME TO BE
WARY OF HIM, THOUGH IN
TRUTH I DIDN'T NEED
THE WARNING.

I DON'T THINK
WE NEED TO WORRY
ABOUT HIM.

THE
PLACE SEEMS
DESERTED.

LET'S GET
A CLOSER
LOOK...

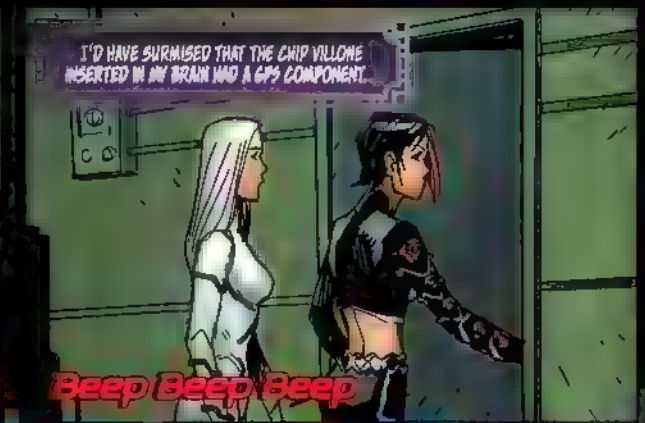
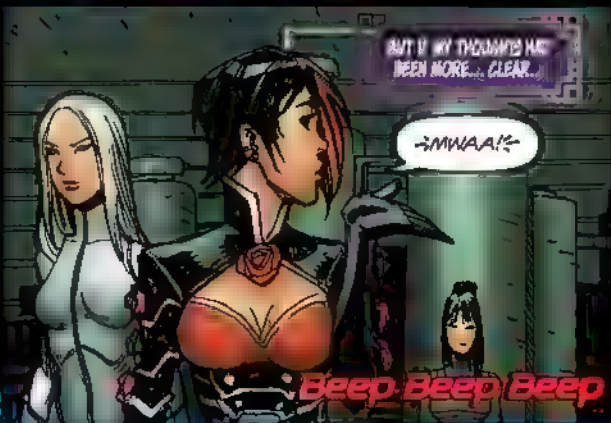
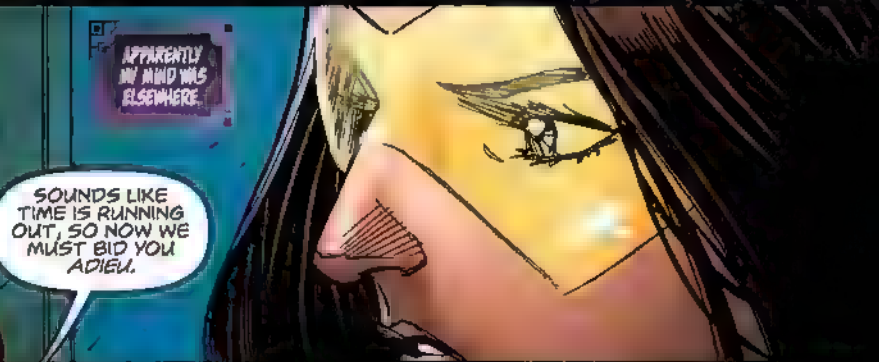
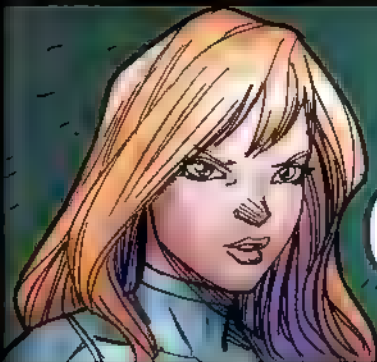
...MY DISILLUSIONMENT
HAD ALREADY SET IN.

THIS IS
A FRESH KILL.
WE NEED TO
HURRY.

SHE'S STILL
ALIVE.

HOW
DO YOU
KNOW?

STILL, I WONDERED
HOW IT WAS THAT SHE KNEW
WHERE TO FIND ME.



Beep Beep Beep

PERHAPS IT WAS BETTER THAT I DIDN'T
KNOW AT THAT PARTICULAR JUNCTURE, OR
WHO KNOWS WHAT I MIGHT HAVE BLURTED
OUT TO ROSE AND JUMPER?

IRIS!

WE HAVE
NO TIME
FOR THIS!

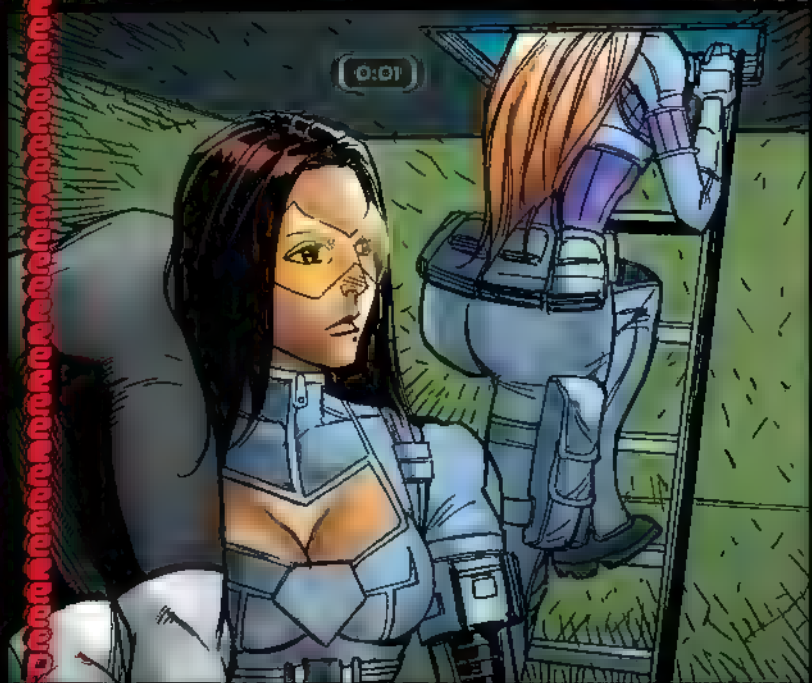
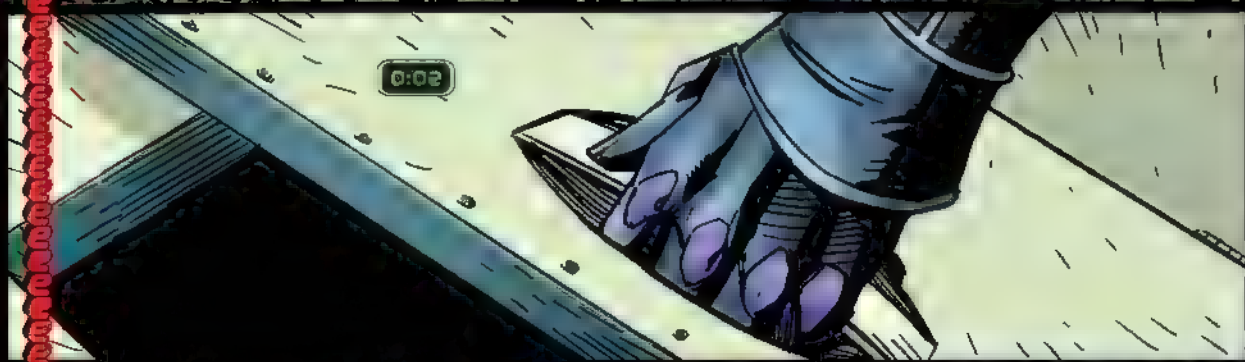
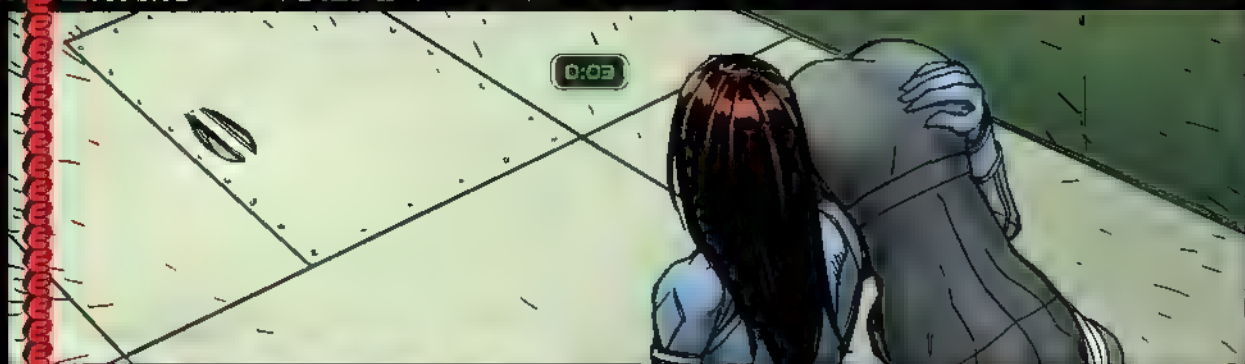
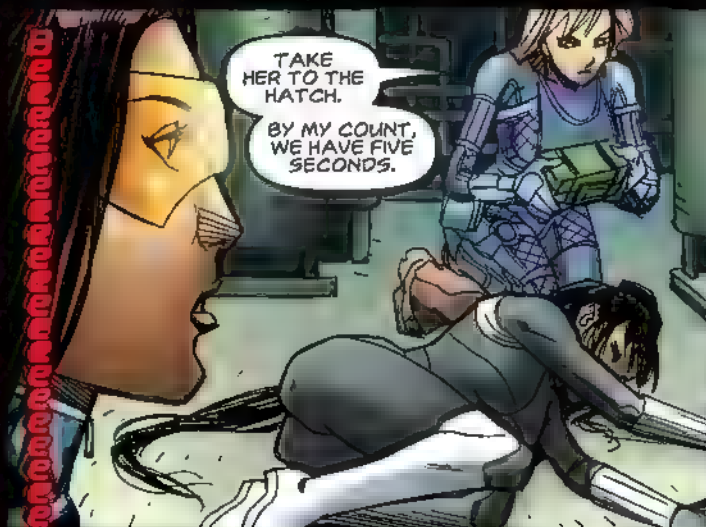
NNGGHHH--
NO!!!

IRIS,
COME
ON!

I CANNOT.

POOR
GIRL...

THWAK



SEVERAL DAYS LATER,
IN LONDON.

RIOTING CONTINUED ON
THE STREETS OF MADRAS
TODAY AS PROTESTORS
CLASHED WITH LOCAL
POLICE.

AUTHORITIES
FEAR THE VIOLENCE
IS ESCALATING HERE
AND ELSEWHERE
IN INDIA.

OFFICIALS AT
VELCHEM, THE VICTIM OF
THE LATEST BOMBING,
SAY THAT A THOROUGH
INVESTIGATION IS
UNDERWAY...

SOMEHOW SOON I'LL THANK
VILLONE FOR INADVERTENTLY
ALLOWING LOTUS AND VIOLET
TO TRACK ME DOWN.

THEY SAVED
MY LIFE.

...BUT INSIDERS
AGREE THAT EVIDENCE
POINTING TO PAKISTANI
INVOLVEMENT IS
MOUNTING.

ON NEWS OF THE
ATTACK, VELCHEM'S STOCK
HAS PLUMMETED, LEADING
SPECULATORS TO WONDER IF
THE BELEAGUERED COMPANY
CAN SURVIVE THE
P.R. HIT.

EVENTUALLY I WAS ABLE TO THANK
THEM FOR IT, AS THEY NOTIFIED ME
THAT A PLAN WAS ALREADY UNDERWAY,
AND I WAS THE FINAL PIECE.

DON'T WORRY.
I THINK VILLONE
WILL BE JUST FINE—
SINCE HE BLEW THE
DAMNED THING UP
HIMSELF!

WHEN ARE WE
GONNA FINALLY BE
ABLE TO KILL THIS
GUY ALREADY?

MY
DAUGHTER
TELLS ME THAT
ARRANGEMENTS
HAVE BEEN
MADE FOR YOUR
DEPARTURE, SO
IT WON'T BE
TOO MUCH
LONGER.

THANK
HEAVENS.

HOW'S
IRIS?

THEY EVEN BROUGHT
MY OLD FRIEND AND RIVAL, LILY,
INTO THE MIX. SHE'S AT VIOLET'S
MOTHER'S HOME, WITH ORLANDO.

RECOVERING
NICELY. SHE SHOULD
BE RELEASED
LATER TODAY.

IN THE MEANTIME,
WOULD YOU BE SO KIND
AS TO EXTINGUISH YOUR
CIGARETTE? IF YOU
HADN'T NOTICED, THIS
IS A SMOKE-FREE
HOUSEHOLD.

I HOPE
SHE'S BEHAVING
HERSELF.

JESUS.
WHATEVER.
WHAT DO
YOU EXPECT
IF YOU HAVE A
GODDAMMED
ASHTRAY ON
THE TABLE?

CAN'T
WAIT TO
GET OUTTA
HERE.

ELSEWHERE...

SINCE OUR RETURN FROM
INDIA, I'VE BEEN HERE, IN AN
MIG RESEARCH FACILITY.

LADIES, IT
APPEARS THAT
THE REINSERTION
SURGERY WAS A
SUCCESS, THOUGH
I ADMIT I'M STILL
APPREHENSIVE
ABOUT IT.

VIOLET HAS FRIENDS AT THE AGENCY WHO
JUMPED AT THE CHANCE TO EXAMINE VILLONE'S
CHIP, ALONG WITH A LIVING, WILLING SUBJECT.

I BELIEVE IT'S
IN ALL OF YOUR INTERESTS
TO REMOVE ANY FOREIGN
OBJECTS FROM YOUR BRAIN
TISSUE, BUT I'VE MADE THE
ADJUSTMENTS AS YOU
REQUESTED.

AN AMAZING
THING, REALLY. AS FAR
AS I KNOW, THE MILITARY
HAS EXPERIMENTED WITH CHIPS
LIKE THESE, BUT NONE HAVE
EVER WORKED IN A LIVING
SUBJECT.

WHOMEVER HAD
ACCESS TO THIS TYPE
OF TECHNOLOGY MUST
HAVE FRIENDS IN VERY
HIGH PLACES.

AND YOU SAY
HE USED IT MERELY
TO KEEP HIS EMPLOYEES
OBEDIENT? NOW THAT
IS A CONTROL FREAK,
I DARESAY.

QUITE.

ALL RIGHT,
IRIS. SIT UP SLOWLY,
AND PLEASE LET ME
KNOW IF THERE IS
ANY PAIN OR
DIZZINESS.

I'M FINE.

EXCELLENT.
THEN YOU'RE FREE
TO GO.

GOOD
TO HAVE
YOU BACK,
IRIS.

THANK YOU,
LOTUS.

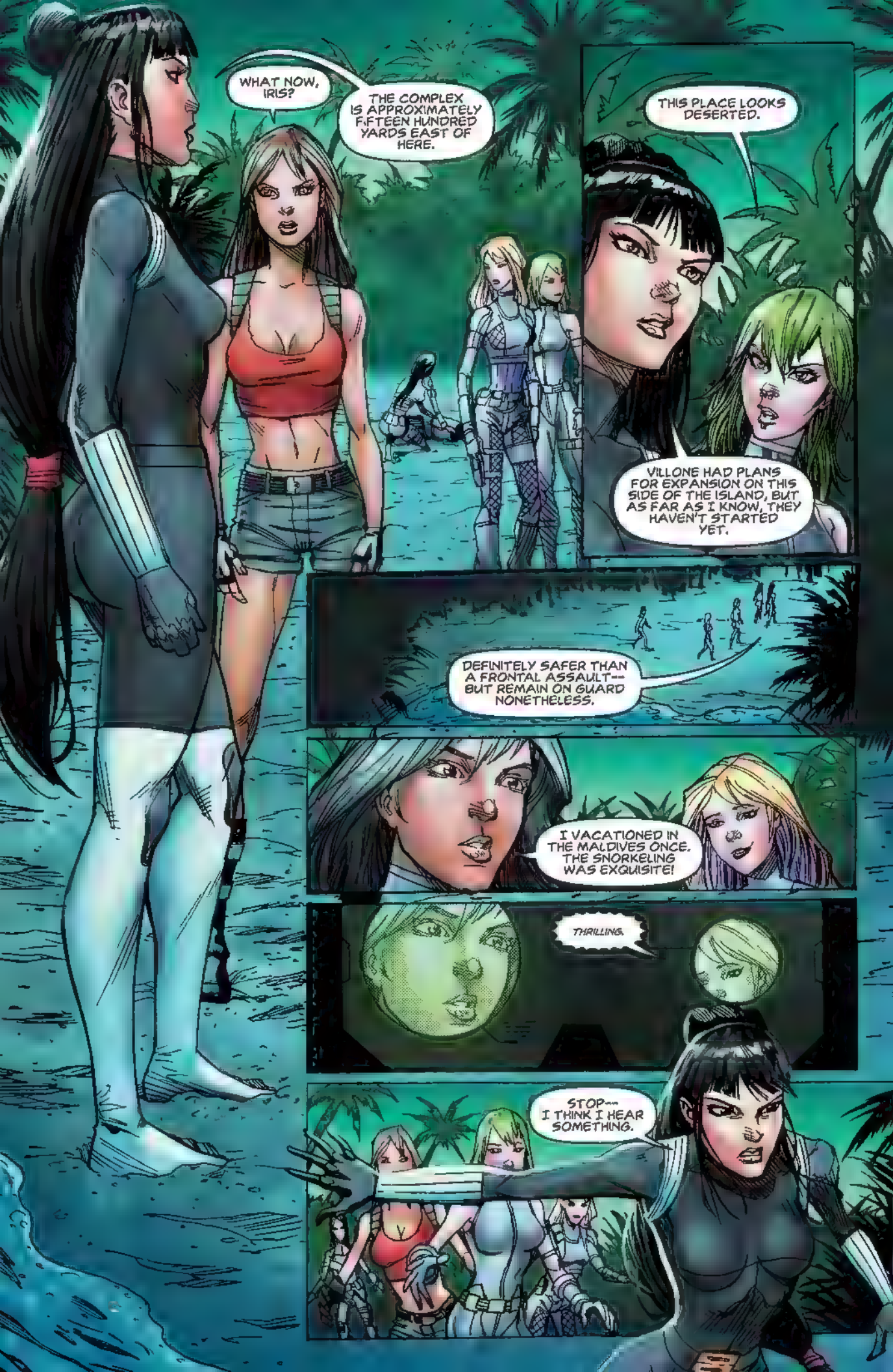
NOW...
LET'S FINISH
THIS.

MALDIVES

TO BE HONEST, I HAD HOPED THAT
I'D NEVER NEED TO RETURN TO THIS
GODFORSAKEN PLACE AGAIN.

UNTIL AS ORCHID SO ELOQUENTLY PUT
IT, "WE NEED TO GET RID OF THIS SON
OF A BITCH FOR EVERYONE'S SAKE."

I COULDN'T
AGREE MORE.



WHAT NOW, IRIS?

THE COMPLEX IS APPROXIMATELY FIFTEEN HUNDRED YARDS EAST OF HERE.

THIS PLACE LOOKS DESERTED.

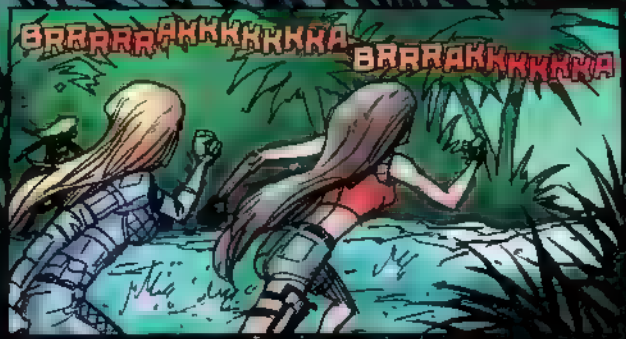
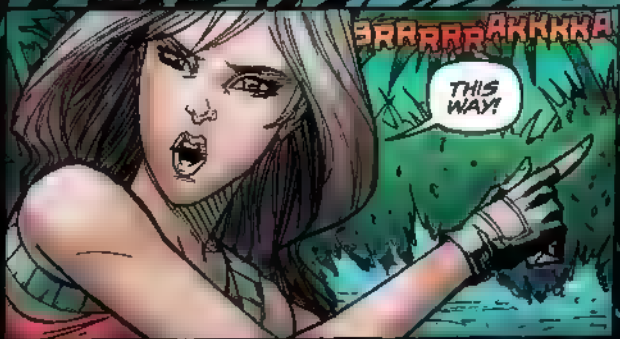
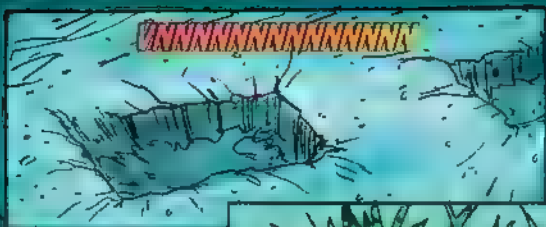
VILLONE HAD PLANS FOR EXPANSION ON THIS SIDE OF THE ISLAND, BUT AS FAR AS I KNOW, THEY HAVEN'T STARTED YET.

DEFINITELY SAFER THAN A FRONTAL ASSAULT--- BUT REMAIN ON GUARD NONETHELESS.

I VACATIONED IN THE MALDIVES ONCE. THE SNORKELING WAS EXQUISITE!

THRILLING.

STOP--- I THINK I HEAR SOMETHING.



NO! WE-- I-- SHOULD'VE
BEEN MORE THOROUGH IN
PLANNING THIS!

I BELIEVED WE HAD THE ELEMENT OF
SURPRISE IN OUR FAVOR AS VILLONE STILL
THINKS I'M DEAD... BUT CLEARLY HE'S BEEN
MAKING PREPARATIONS FOR VISITORS.

THRIPP

UNNGH!

DAMN!

MISTAKES LIKE THAT
WILL GET US KILLED.

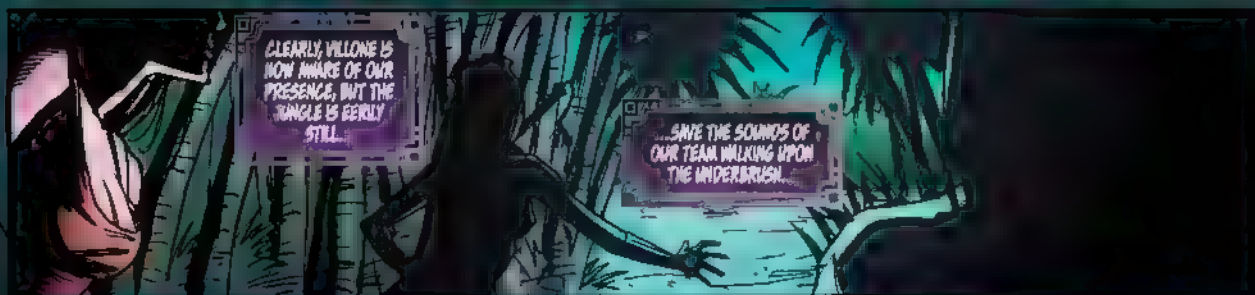
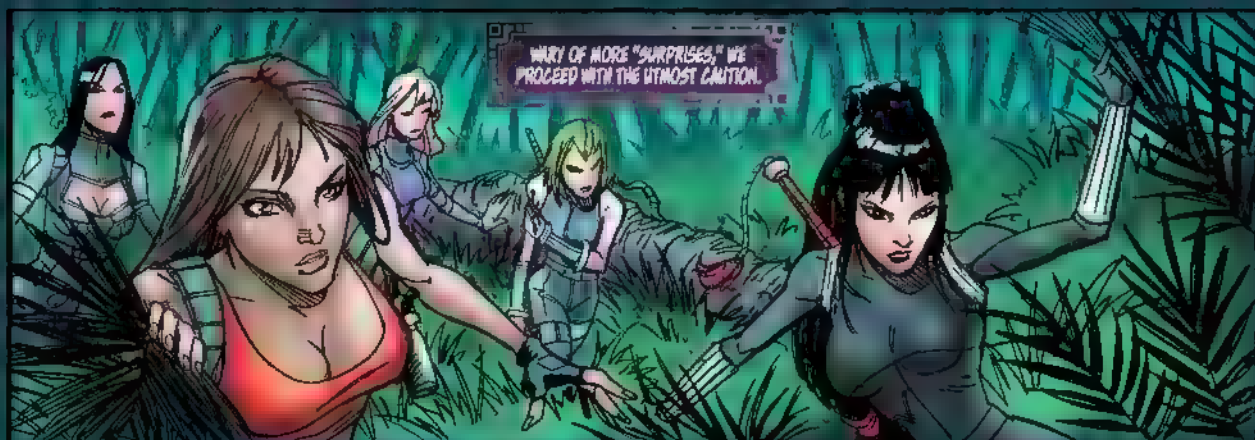
LILY, ARE
YOU ALL
RIGHT?

I'M FINE,
JUST OUT
OF SHAPE,
I GUESS.

LET'S
JUST GET
THIS OVER
WITH, ALL
RIGHT?

AS SOON AS WE
CAN, LILY. BUT IT SEEMS
WE UNDERESTIMATED
VILLONE.

THIS WHOLE
DAMNED ISLAND
MIGHT BE BOOSY-
TRAPPED.



SOON...

I MUST BE HONEST WITH YOU, IRIS. I'M GENUINELY SURPRISED TO SEE YOU.

I MEAN, WOULDN'T YOU BE IF YOU WERE ME, AND YOUR MOST TRUSTED ASSISTANTS HAD TOLD YOU SOMETHING THEY CLAIMED WAS A FACT?

DON'T GET ME WRONG, IT'S ALWAYS A PLEASURE TO SEE YOUR PRETTY FACE.

I WAS JUST UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT IT HAD BEEN SPLATTERED ACROSS A FACTORY IN MADRAS.

FORGIVE MY FRANKNESS, DEAR. I KNOW I MUST TAKE SOME OF THE BLAME FOR THE PROBLEMS YOU ENCOUNTERED.

IN RETROSPECT, I SHOULD'VE DONE MORE TESTING ON THE CHIP BEFORE I BEGAN USING IT. I WAS SIMPLY TOO EXCITED TO SEE IT IN USE.

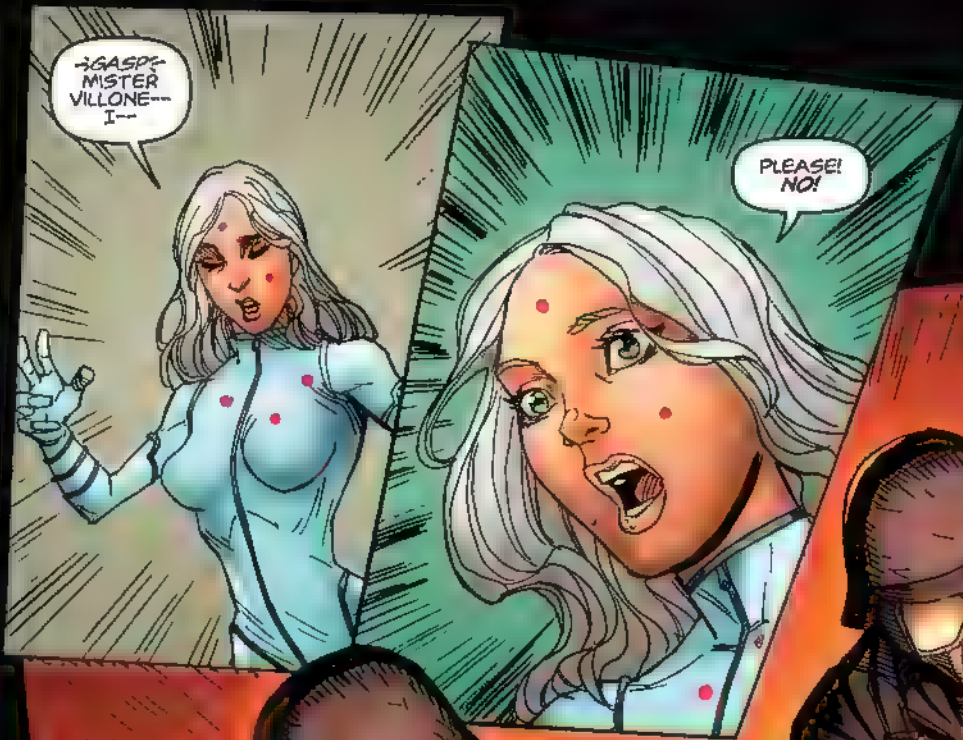
BUT HOW COULD YOU TWO POSSIBLY SCREW THIS ASSIGNMENT UP?

YOU COULD'VE MADE HER SLIT HER OWN THROAT, OR STABBED HER IN THE BACK, OR HAD HER DIVE IN A POOL OF ACID. ANYTHING!!!

IT'S MY FAULT, SIR. I-- DIDN'T REALIZE THE OTHERS WERE TRACKING HER. I SHOULD HAVE BEEN MORE THOROUGH.

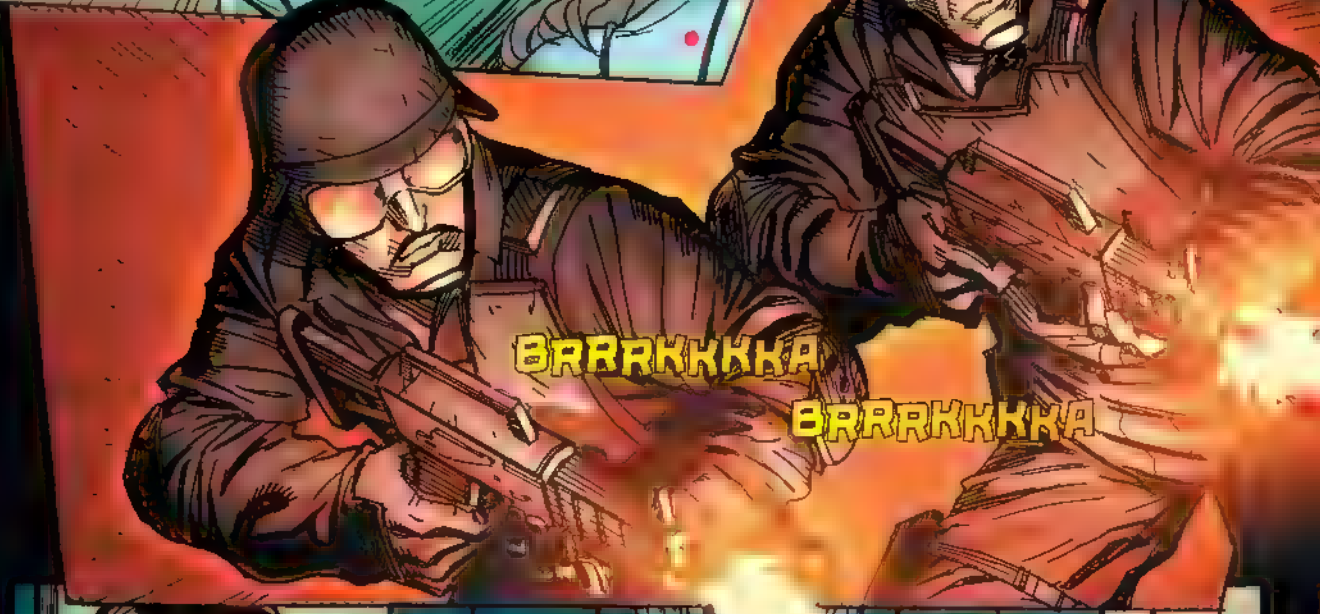
ROSE, I AM SO ANGRY THAT I COULD KILL YOU. BUT YOU'RE STILL A VALUABLE ASSET TO ME.

GENTLEMEN, PLEASE DISPATCH WITH JUNIPER.



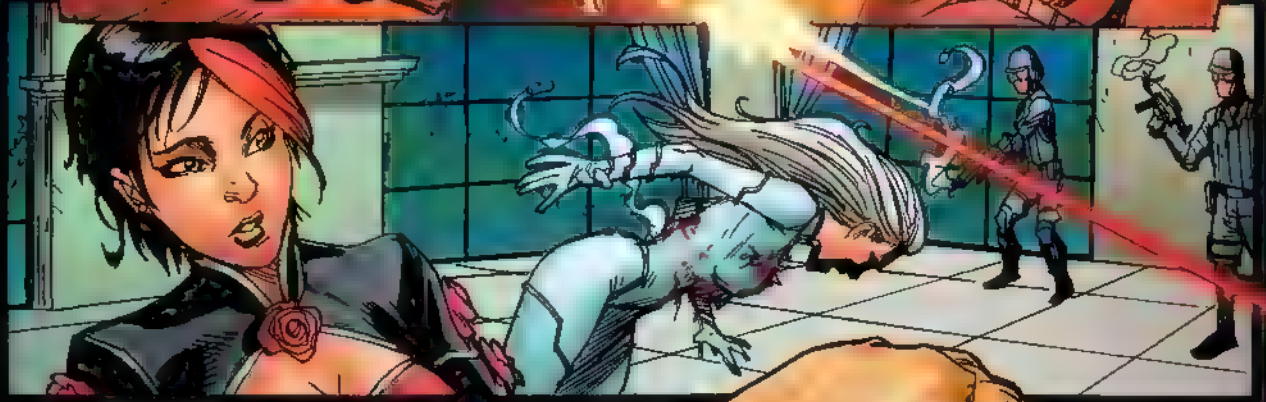
GASP!
MISTER
VILLONE--
I--

PLEASE!
NO!



BRRRKKKKKA

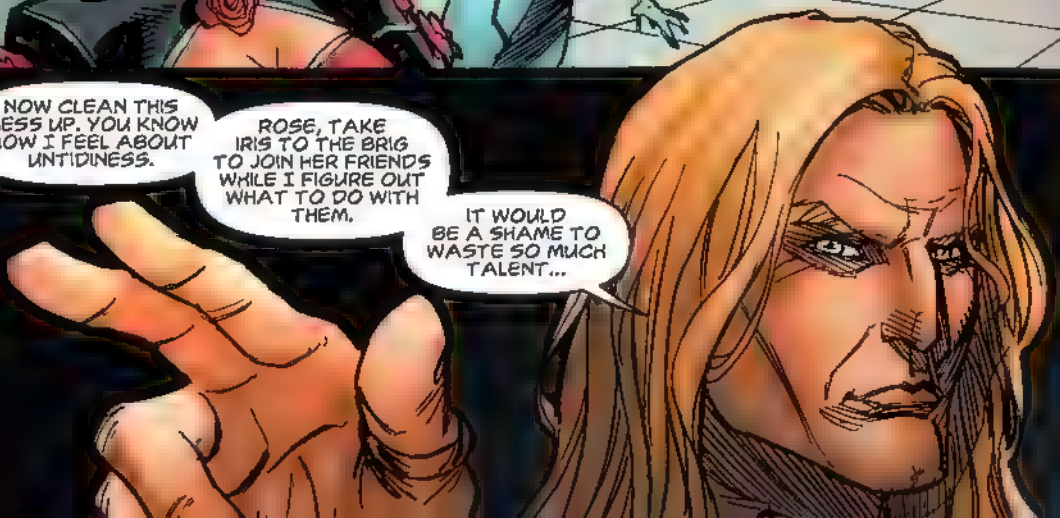
BRRRKKKKKA

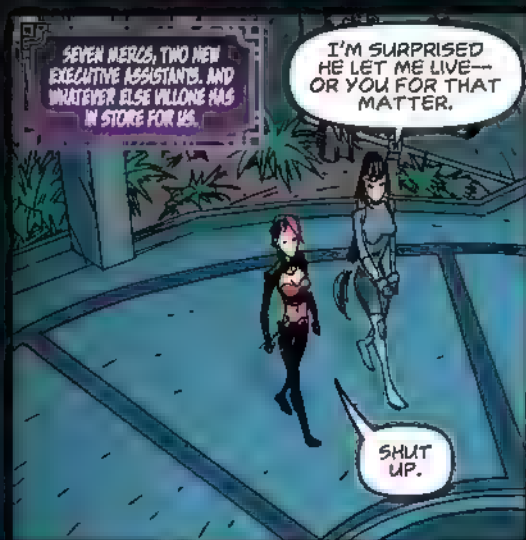


NOW CLEAN THIS
MESS UP. YOU KNOW
HOW I FEEL ABOUT
UNTIDINESS.

ROSE, TAKE
IRIS TO THE BRIG
TO JOIN HER FRIENDS
WHILE I FIGURE OUT
WHAT TO DO WITH
THEM.

IT WOULD
BE A SHAME TO
WASTE SO MUCH
TALENT...



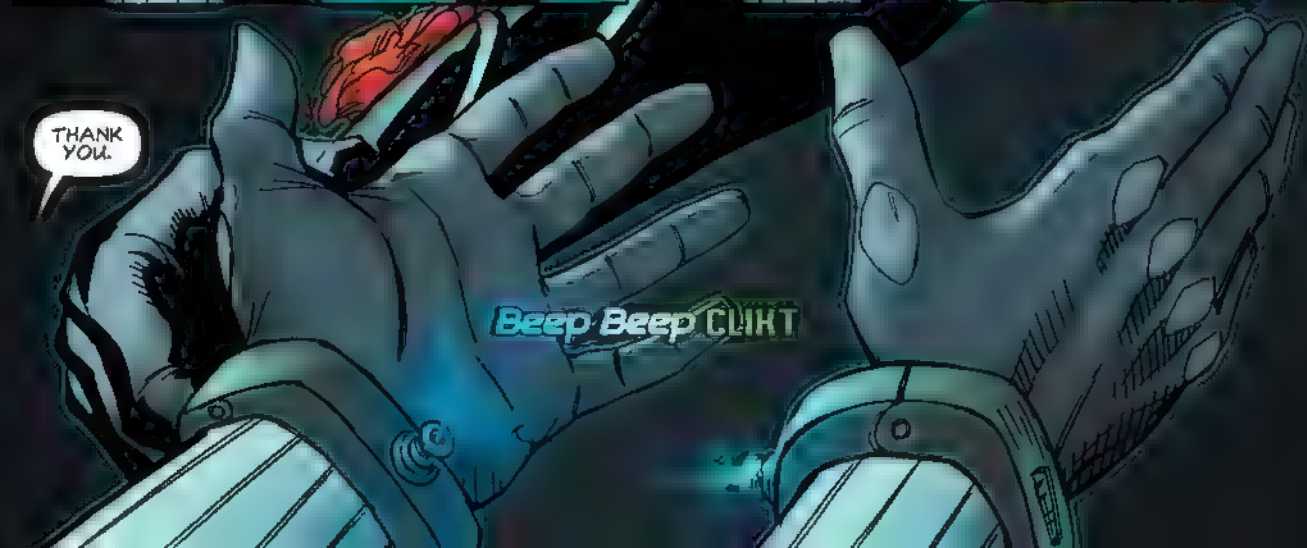
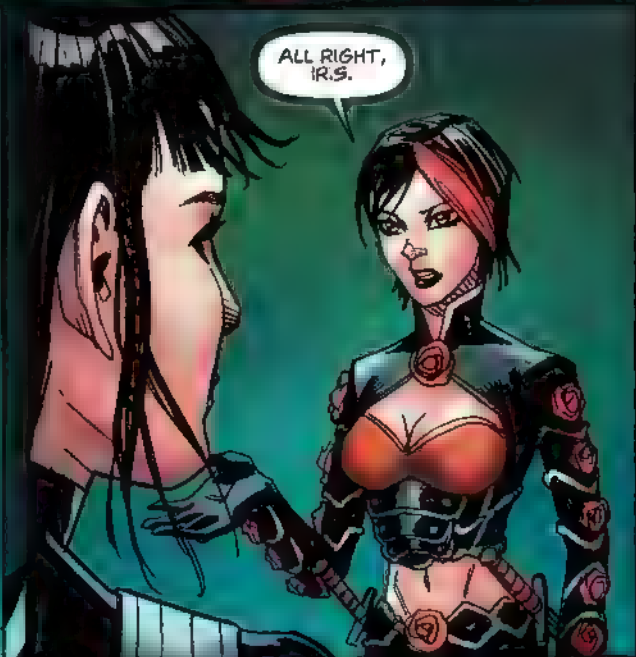


I'M SURPRISED HE LET ME LIVE—OR YOU FOR THAT MATTER.

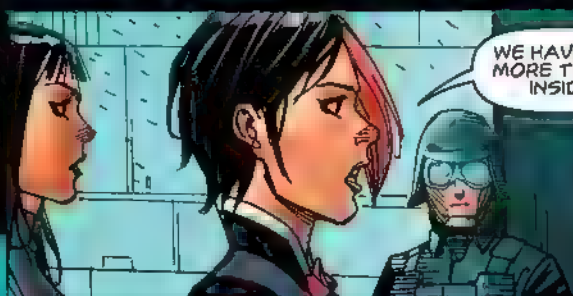
SHUT UP.



ROSE...



Beep Beep CLIKT

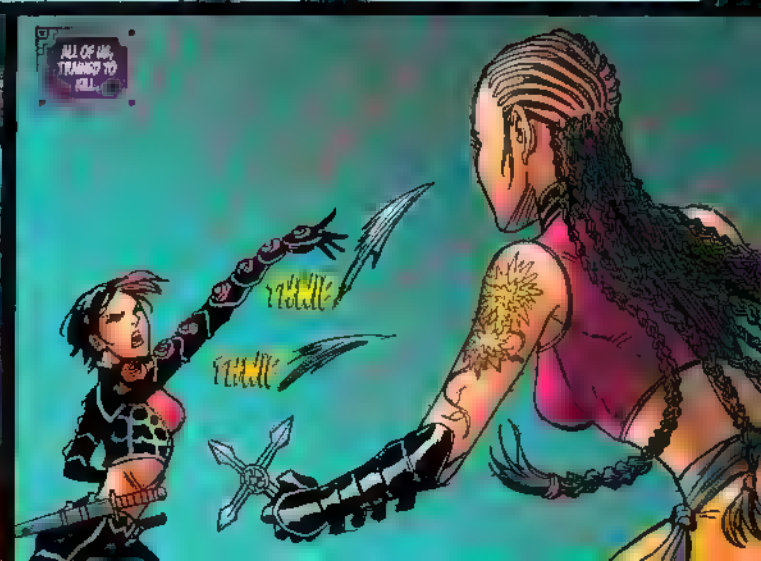
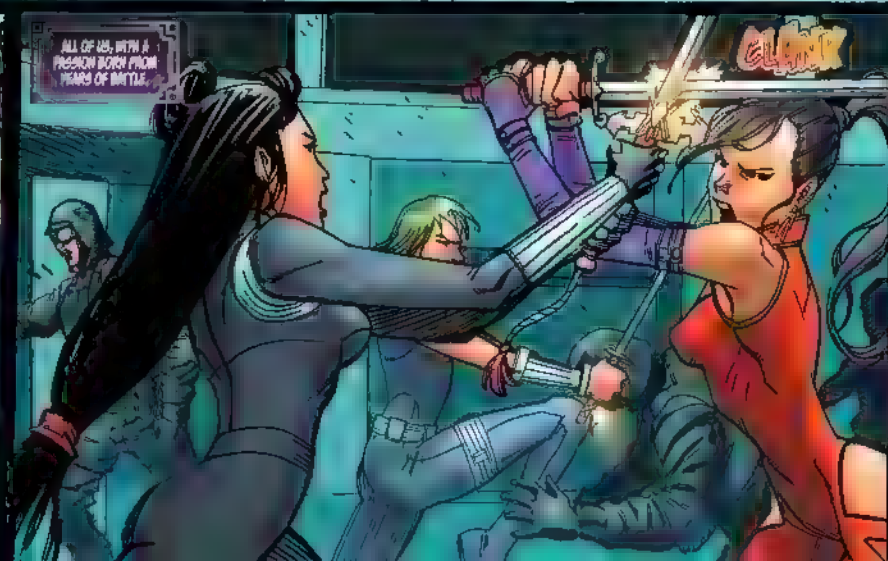


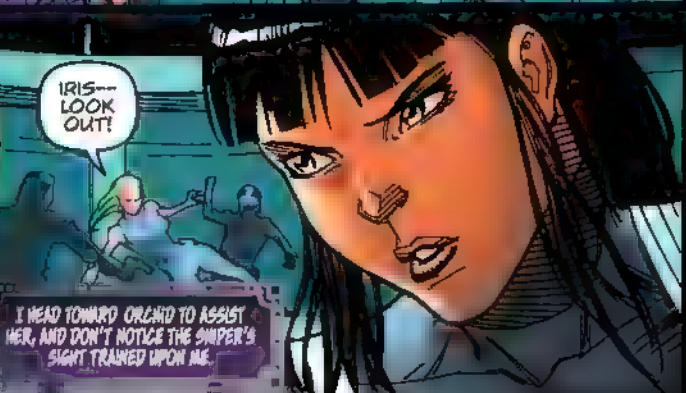
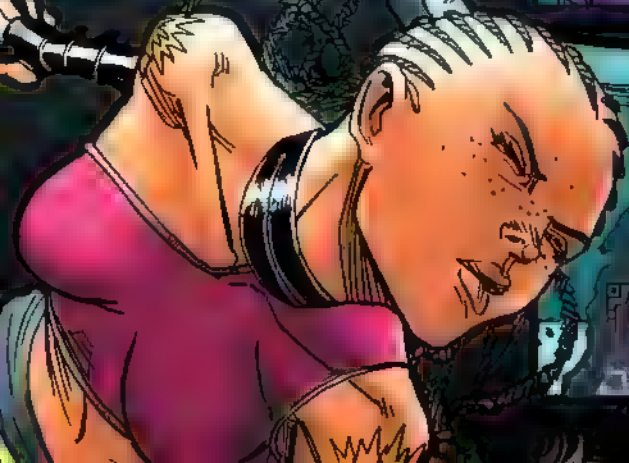
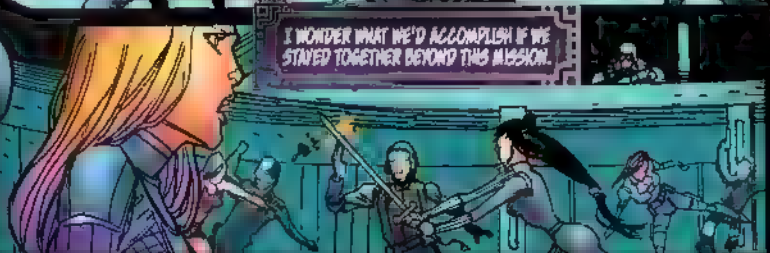
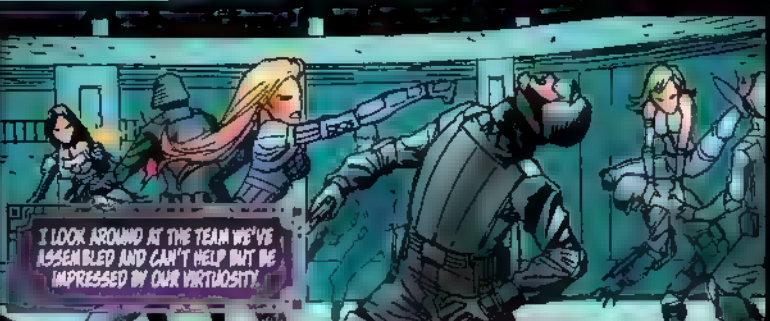


THERE THEY ARE!

THE BATTLE WILL COME TO US.

SNAPORASON AND WISTERIA... VILLONE'S NEWEST LACKEYS. THIS SHOULD BE FUN.







VIOLET DOES.

THUKSHH

PAM

HE DOESN'T
GET A CHANCE FOR
ANOTHER SHOT.



SHE TELLS ME SHE
KNOWS I'D HAVE DONE
THE SAME FOR HER.

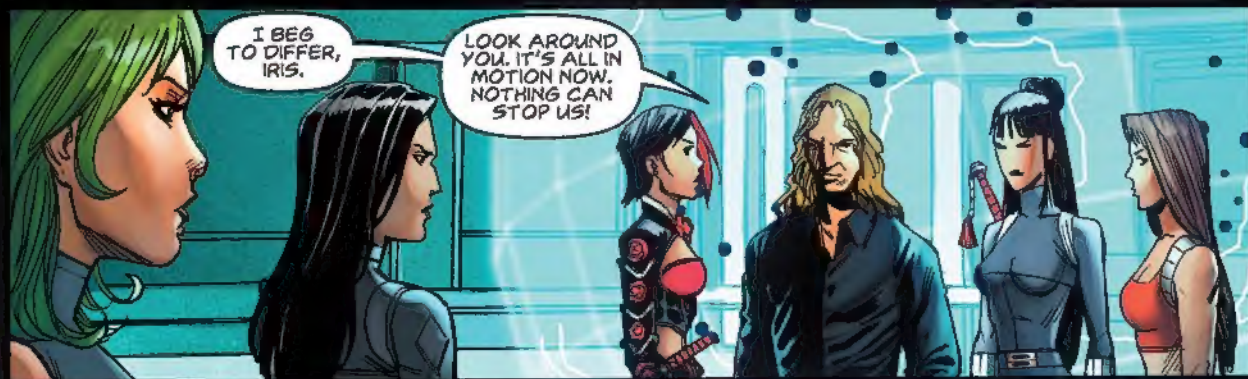


SHE'S RIGHT.



AND AS VIOLET'S LIFE
FADES AND THE BATTLE
WINDS DOWN, I FOCUS ON
THE MAN RESPONSIBLE FOR
THIS, AND VOW TO BRING
HIM TO JUSTICE.





I BEG
TO DIFFER,
IRIS.

LOOK AROUND
YOU. IT'S ALL IN
MOTION NOW.
NOTHING CAN
STOP US!



WHAT DO
YOU MEAN? YOU
JUST WANT TO BUY
MORE STOCK
IN VEL--

THIS ISN'T
ABOUT MONEY,
OR CORPORATIONS OR
YOU OR ME. IT'S ABOUT
NATION-BUILDING; ABOUT
RECREATING THE WORLD
THE WAY IT SHOULD
BE.

WITH YOUR HELP--
ALL OF YOU-- THE
SEEDS HAVE BEEN
SOWN. THERE'S NO
TURNING BACK
NOW!



MY
EMPLOYERS
ARE QUITE
PLEASED.

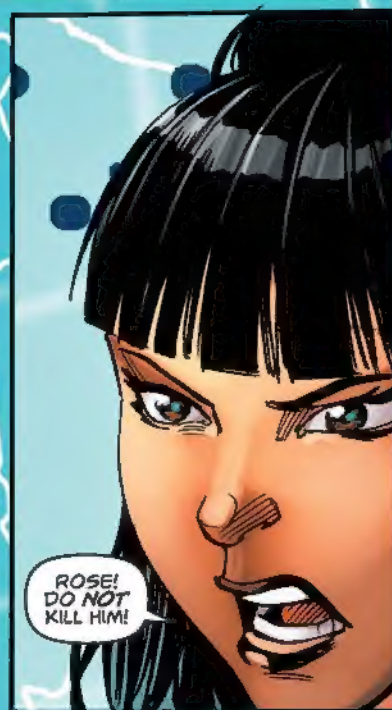
WHO--?



OH, NOT TO
WORRY. THEY'LL
REVEAL THEMSELVES
SOON ENOUGH.



YOU KNOW
SOMETHING,
DUNCAN? YOU
TALK TOO
MUCH.



ROSE!
DO NOT
KILL HIM!



GOOD GIRL.
LOYAL TO
THE END.



ROSE!
NO!



I TURNED IT OFF, IRIS.
AFTER SEEING WHAT I
COULD DO TO YOU IN INDIA,
I FIGURED BETTER SAFE
THAN SORRY WITH THIS
MANIAC.

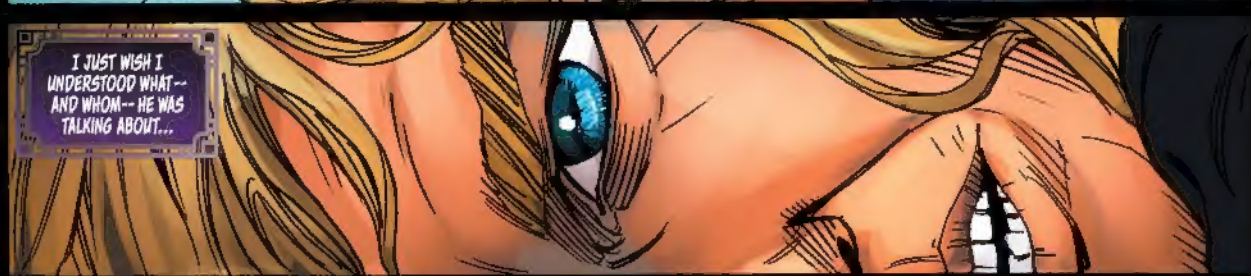
SORRY. I
PLAYED YOUR
GAME FOR AS
LONG AS I
COULD.

BUT THIS
WAS FOR JUNIPER.
FOR VIOLET. FOR
ACTEIA.

FOR
ME.



WHO COULD BLAME
HER? THE MAN'S SOUL
WAS AS CORRUPT AS
CHING'S.



I JUST WISH I
UNDERSTOOD WHAT--
AND WHOM-- HE WAS
TALKING ABOUT...



...AND THAT I COULD
SHAKE THE FEELING THAT
OUR TROUBLES ARE ONLY
BEGINNING...

THE END??
TO BE CONTINUED IN...
EXECUTIVE
ASSISTANT: IRIS
VOLUME THREE